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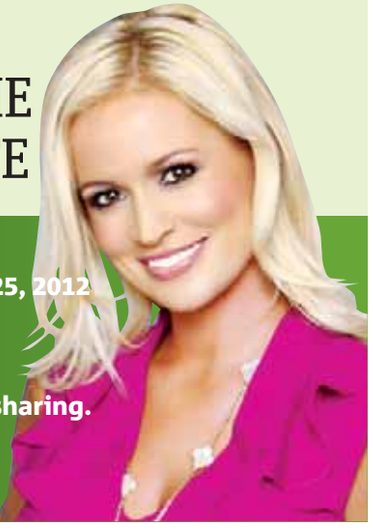
MCGUINTY TO DEAL WITH PUBLIC SECTOR WAGES IN AUSTERITY PLAN

{page 6}

EMILY, PLUS ONE

SINGLE MOM TO PLAY DATING GAME ON BACHELORETTE

{page 24}



TORONTO metro®

Wednesday, January 25, 2012
www.metronews.ca

News worth sharing.

▶ Actress Jennifer Lawrence and Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences president Tom Sherak call out the nominees during the 84th Academy Awards announcement at the Samuel Goldwyn Theater on in Los Angeles.

KEVIN WINTER/GETTY IMAGES

Leading. Ladies

Plucky orphan Hugo is ol' uncle Oscar's favourite

There were a few big surprises, some odd nods and Canadian talent in the mix. Martin Scorcese's Hugo racked up the most nominations with 11, The Artist was right behind at 10. For more coverage, see page 19.

New transit plan a 3-route compromise

$8.2-billion transit proposal at city council delivers a bit of subway, open-sky LRT, and souped-up Finch buses

Commuters on Finch Avenue could have a new busway in less than three years and shovels could be in the ground on the Eglinton LRT and Sheppard subway by 2014.

A new transit proposal from TTC chair Karen Stintz that would kick-start construction on three new transit lines using already-committed provincial dollars was gaining support Tuesday, particularly among councillors in the increasingly powerful political middle.

"If we can come to a resolution on this we can proceed quite quickly," said Stintz.

The plan would provide transit to tens of thousands more TTC riders than the existing understanding between Queen's Park and Mayor Rob Ford.

Instead of allocating $8.2 billion in provincial funds to tunnel the entire length of the Eglinton light rail line, the transit would run above-ground east of Laird Drive, freeing up between $1.5 billion and $2 billion for other projects.

The savings could then be applied to bus rapid transit on Finch, where it would improve service to the city's underserved northwest until funding could be found to install light rail there.

TORSAR NEWS SERVICE

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City ponders urban poultry ban

Toronto's agriculture community pressing for bylaw change ▶ Licensing committee meets on Wednesday

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE/ANDREW FRANCIS WALLACE

▶ Trish Tervit holds one of her hens named 'Pippi' in her Toronto backyard on Tuesday. Tervit, an outlaw chicken farmer, has three backyard hens.

Trish Tervit is a friendly mom, an executive with a buzzing iPhone and an outlaw urban farmer collecting eggs on borrowed time.

Her hens — Pippi, Mabel and Elli — peer through a sliding-glass door, schnauzer-like, into Tervit's Upper Beach semi-detached home.

"I blame my daughter's Grade 6 teacher," who brought cute chicks to class, triggering the inevitable "Can we get chickens?" plea from both of Tervit's daughters.

She had refused other pets, citing allergies, but couldn't think of a reason to say no to hens. Research, which included buying a used copy of Raising Chickens for Dummies for $5 on eBay, told her chickens are banned by the city.

"I realized that if I waited for the city to make a decision on it, my kids would be in university by then. So I thought, I'm just going to see what happens, and it was going tickety-boo fine for a year and a half."

"People think it's pretty hilarious, but it's teaching kids a little about where their food comes from, that there are ways to sustain yourself." TRISH TERVIT

But, in October, Tervit got a city notice saying a neighbour had made an unspecified complaint. Her city councillor, Mary-Margaret McMahon, advised her to hold tight.

In late November, another notice ordered the birds gone by Dec. 1. Tervit scrambled, ready to move them to a "safe house." Days later they got a reprieve when councillors McMahon and Joe Mihevc formally asked for a staff report on the feasibility of allowing backyard hens for eggs, and not slaughter.

The licensing and standards committee will vote Wednesday on whether to order that report, as Toronto's underground chicken network — 14 farmers were sent infraction notices last year — holds its breath. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Council relents massive pay raise

Whitchurch-Stouffville's town council backed down on Tuesday from an unpopular 43 per cent salary hike contemplated last fall, approving an 18.6 per cent raise for councillors and 16 per cent for the mayor.

The mayor's salary will rise to $48,900 in 2013 from $42,148 now, while councillors' salaries will rise to $32,900 from $27,730. The six town councillors work part-time.

The proposed 43 per cent pay raise was slammed by union leaders and scoffed at by residents in the week leading up to Tuesday's vote.

On Tuesday, former Whitchurch-Stouffville mayor Sue Sherban called the reduced raise "disappointing." But Bob Stover, a lifelong resident, said it was fair.

"I think these people deserved what they got, but the timing was bad," he said. He added that he believed council had learned a lesson for future remuneration debates about better communication.

During a break in the budget committee proceedings, Mayor Wayne Emmerson said his and council's salaries were average in the region, and that many people aren't aware of the rigours of the job, whose responsibilities run the gamut from dealing with stray dogs to Tuesday's multi-million-dollar budget. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Tentative settlement in YRT strike

ATU Local 113, which represents 220 Viva bus employees, reached a tentative deal on Tuesday with Veolia Transport. Union members will vote to ratify the agreement on Thursday, sources tell the Toronto Star.

The tentative deal comes at the dispute's three-month mark. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

1 news

WTA wants players to do away with the grunt during matches. Scan the code for the story.

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Mayor likens rivals to Stalin

Joseph Stalin was a dictator who ruled the Soviet Union for nearly 30 years ▶ Responsible for deaths of millions

Joseph Stalin didn't care about taxpayers.

That's the most benefit-of-the-doubt way to take a radio comment made by Mayor Rob Ford on Tuesday morning, which likened five political rivals to the murderous Russian dictator.

Speaking on the John Oakley show, Ford told the AM640 host that certain councillors are "two steps left of Joe Stalin."

Ford was being questioned as to whether he had lost support of council's middle. Oakley pointed to the fact that self-proclaimed centrist Josh Matlow recently stated he would not back Ford's plan to do away with the land transfer tax.

RICK EGLINTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Mayor Rob Ford

"I consider him a left-wing NDPer. I'm not surprised. It's just like saying Adam Vaughan or (Gord) Perks or (Janet) Davis or (Paula) Fletcher is not voting with me," said Ford.

"These people are all two steps left of Joe Stalin. So I'm not discouraged by that and I don't expect it. They don't care about the taxpayers. But I know one person who does, and that's me."

Coun. Perks refused to comment on Ford's words. "I'm trying to do real work," he responded.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Strike. A pose

▶ Ryan Keith Follesé, lead singer of Hot Chelle Rae, snaps a shot Tuesday for a fan during the band's visit to the NEW.MUSIC.LIVE. studio, to chat about their album Whatever and their upcoming Beautiful Freaks tour with Canadian stops in February and April.

COURTESY OF MUCHMUSIC

Hot Chelle Rae drops by MuchMusic

Elderly man dead after collision

An 82-year-old man is dead after a five-vehicle collision in Markham on Monday.

The collision occurred around 12:15 p.m. on Highway 7 between McCowan Road and Bullock Drive near Markville Mall.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Delays may be coming to Pearson

As nearly 300 security screeners at Pearson International face layoffs Wednesday, critics of the move claim people can expect longer checkpoint lineups and compromised safety standards.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Man charged in alleged fraud case

A 28-year-old man is facing several charges alleging fraudulent applications for social services benefits in Toronto. Charges against Alex Kusi include 10 fraud counts, four counts of personation and five of identity fraud. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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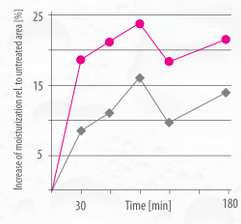

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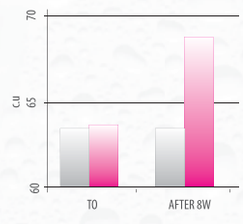

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ONLINE PRIVACY

Think before you click, students told

Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart is urging young Canadians to think twice before posting personal information online, warning that the Internet can be "unforgiving" in its retention of data that could one day be viewed as embarrassing.

Stoddart's office launched a new video and a presentation package for Grade 7 and 8 students, to help parents, teachers and young people better understand the risks that come with posting personal information on the web.

"I think that the fact that you cannot live your life now without having it documented in some permanent form is a major change in the parameters of social existence," Stoddart said.

Also included in the privacy commissioner's new toolset is a tip sheet for parents concerned about the online behaviour of their children.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Police issue 'bath salts' warning

Police are warning people to stay away from a designer drug known as "bath salts" that has been showing up in the Owen Sound area.

The substance is blamed for sending at least five people to hospital over the last week. Police say they seized about 142 grams of suspected bath salts at a residence on Monday while executing a search warrant.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

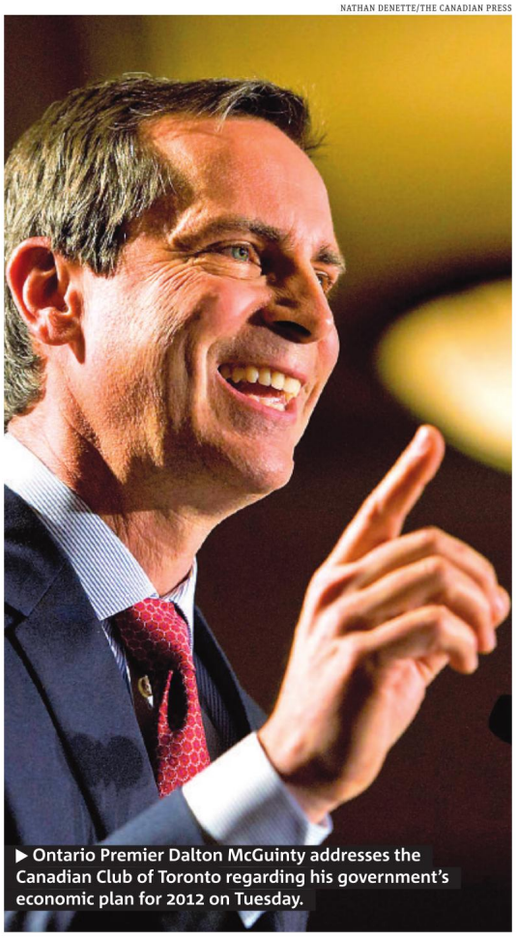
Woman in Mexico out of coma

The family of a Calgary woman who was severely beaten in Mexico says she is out of a medically induced coma and is able to recognize her husband at her bedside.

Paul Giles says his sister, Sheila Nabb, was brought out of the coma on Monday, three days after suffering a brutal beating at a luxury hotel on the country's northwestern coast. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Premier talks of leaner times

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Ontario Premier Dalton McGuinty addresses the Canadian Club of Toronto regarding his government's economic plan for 2012 on Tuesday.

Public-service salaries must be addressed to cut deficit: McGuinty

Doctors, nurses, teachers and one million public-sector workers in Ontario will have to hold their salary demands in check while the province eliminates a $16-billion deficit, Premier Dalton McGuinty said Tuesday.

"One half of all government spending, about $55 billion, is invested in wages and salaries," McGuinty told the Canadian Club.

"It is simply not possible to reduce spending without addressing salary expenditures."

However, McGuinty rejected the Progressive Conservatives' demand for a legislated pay freeze for public-sector workers, saying he has built up goodwill with unions and will continue to show them respect at the bargaining table.

The Liberals tried a voluntary public-sector wage freeze in 2009, but most unions continued to negotiate salary increases, leading to situations where some workers got pay hikes while managers or even non-unionized colleagues doing the same work did not.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

"When this government starts to say we're going to transform the health-care system, I think we all have to be pretty nervous."
NDP LEADER ANDREA HORWATH

The premier declined to offer any specifics about program and service cuts expected to be in the March budget, but said the government would soon outline its plans to transform the health-care system.

The Liberals want to cap the increase in health spending at three per cent a year, less than half the amount seen in each of the previous eight years, and hold the government's overall spending hike to just one per cent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A good day for putting on pink

Wear it Pink Day, a national event encouraging Canadians to wear pink and register for the 10th annual Shoppers Drug Mart Weekend to End Women's Cancers, is today.

To date, the event has raised more than $123 million for Princess Margaret Hospital, to provide further cancer care and treatment.

This evening the organizers are hosting a skating event at Nathan Phillips Square, and city hall and the CN Tower will be lit up in pink.

To wear pink and register, visit endcancer.ca or call 416-815-9255.

METRO

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Try donning some pink.

Man killed at plaza

Toronto police say a man in his 30s was gunned down early Tuesday afternoon at an east-end plaza.

Const. Tony Vella says the man was pronounced dead at the scene at a barber shop at the Malvern Town Centre.

Vella says police are looking for one or more suspects, but there is no suspect information.

There's no word on a motive.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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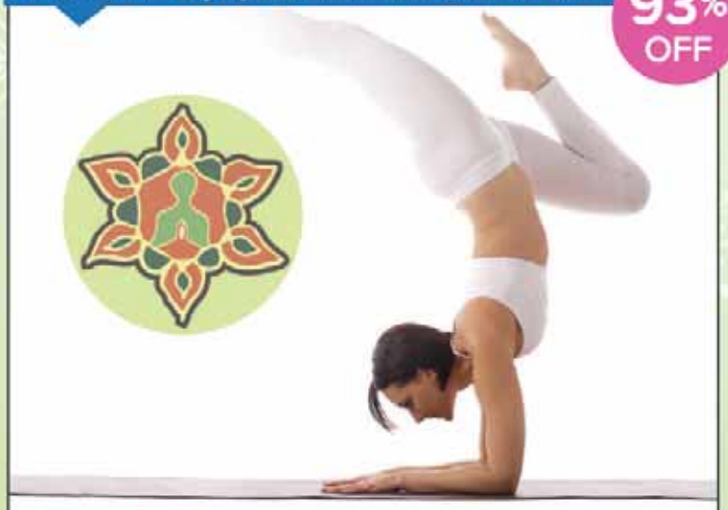

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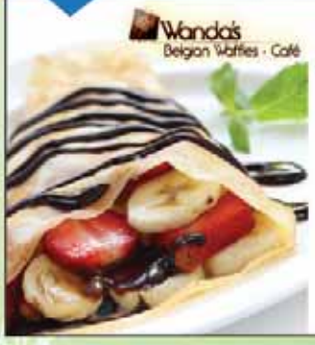

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Harper, chiefs at odds over future of Indian Act

Prime Minister has no plans to repeal legislation But many native leaders see it as obstacle to change

What was billed as a historic coming together of the federal government and First Nations began with the two sides polarized over the future of the Indian Act.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper sees it as something that can be updated to reflect modern practices.

But Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, led a parade of speakers who described the century-old legislation as a boulder blocking the path to collaboration.

They laid out their views Tuesday during a major meeting of First Nations leaders and government ministers and officials.

"After 136 years, that tree has deep roots. Blowing up the stump would just leave a big hole."
PRIME MINISTER STEPHEN HARPER ON THE INDIAN ACT

The Indian Act, first passed in 1876, gave Ottawa exclusive jurisdiction over "Indians and Lands Reserved for Indians." The legislation, which was last amended in 2000, sets out rules on everything from how reserves operate to the effect of marriage on status. THE CANADIAN PRESS

ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Assembly of First Nations National Chief Shawn Atleo and Prime Minister Stephen Harper stand on stage during the opening ceremony at the Crown-First Nations Gathering in Ottawa on Tuesday.

Theories not enough: Defence

There are simply too many unknowns to be able to convict a man of four counts of first-degree murder in the deaths of his daughters and wife, a jury in Ontario heard Tuesday in a case prosecutors allege is a so-called honour killing.

The Crown alleges Mohammad Shafia, 58, one of his two wives and their son killed Shafia's three daughters and other wife. The bodies were found June 30, 2009, in a car at the bottom of a canal in Kingston, but the Crown did not present evidence specifically detailing how it believes the four died.

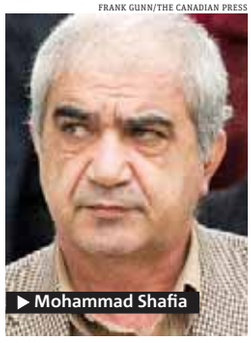
The Crown has suggested it believes the four were dead before the car plunged into the water, but in his closing address Tuesday, Shafia's lawyer told the jury they can't rely on theories.

"You don't know where, you don't know how, you don't know when that happened," Peter Kemp said.

Court has heard evidence it appears the four females made no attempt to escape the car through an open window, and the bodies were found eerily suspended inside.

The jury is expected to begin its deliberations as early as Thursday afternoon. THE CANADIAN PRESS

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS



▶ Mohammad Shafia

January

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VIRGINIE SALMEN/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Supporters take to the street in Montreal on Sunday to protest the death sentence hanging over GTA web designer Saeed Malekpour in Iran.

Iran's gunning for its cyber dissidents

GTA web designer faces death sentence as the regime cracks down

Iran's Green Revolution geeks are taking their struggle to cyberspace, but the clerical regime's censors are already there — and gunning for them.

"There is an arms race in cyberspace," said Ron Deibert, and it "has caught up with Iran."

Deibert, who heads the University of Toronto's Citizen Lab, added: "It's not the only government to increase Internet surveillance and censorship, but it has ambitions to engage in more sophisticated surveillance of network traffic.

"We can see that the Iranians are developing fine-grained techniques."

Iran has also stepped up a ground war against its suspected enemies.

GTA web designer Saeed Malekpour, along with Internet professionals Vahid Asghari and Ahmad Reza Hasempour, were sentenced to death this month in Iran.

It's part of a crackdown on people who use cyberspace to spread messages the regime considers subversive.

"What we do know is that Asghari, Hasempour and Malekpour were all targeted because they were seen as capable of hosting, or assisting with the building of websites," said the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists.

> **"Internet cafes (in Iran) are required to do more about registering users."**
> RON DEIBERT, HEAD OF THE U OF T'S CITIZEN LAB

"Iran has a policy of dismantling 'destructive' online networks, and the three appear to have been rounded up as part of this crackdown."

Deibert said Iran has stepped up efforts to control communication.

"It ranges from growing controls on the edges of the network, to nationalizing connectivity," he said.

In addition, Iran has developed ways of blocking Internet traffic at sensitive times. "Coming up to the March (parliamentary) elections they will block ports to slow down the Internet, making it more difficult to connect to the outside world."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Where's Luiza? Busy making Canada go viral

FACEBOOK PHOTO

▶ Luiza Rabello put Canada on the map.

A TV commercial's quirky reference to Canada has spawned a viral hit in Brazil.

The 30-second spot features gossip columnist Gerardo Rabello, who encourages viewers to purchase condos in the state of Paraiba.

Rabello appears with his wife and two of his three children. He says he brought his entire family to support the venture "except Luiza, who is in Canada."

Incredibly, the random remark has become an online hit, with one video attracting more than five million views since it was uploaded on YouTube two weeks ago. Fans can also buy T-shirts emblazoned with the phrase.

Rabello was explaining the absence of his daughter, Luiza Rabello, a 17-year-old exchange student who has been living in Barrie. The producers insisted on using the line because they felt viewers would wonder about Luiza's whereabouts.

Luiza is back in Brazil.

"It's amazing how things go (so) fast on the Internet nowadays!" she tweeted in Portuguese.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

WIKILEAKS FOUNDER

Assange's new leak: A TV plan

You've read his leaks. Now watch his show.

International secret-buster Julian Assange says he's launching his very own TV series.

And the 40-year-old Australian has promised to give viewers more of what he has been supplying for years: Controversy.

WikiLeaks says the show is intended to "draw together controversial voices from across the political spectrum — iconoclasts, visionaries and power insiders — each to offer a window on the world tomorrow."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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SAUL LOEB/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ U.S. President Barack Obama embraces retiring congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords as her colleagues applaud before his State of the Union address on Tuesday.

U.S. president makes his case

Obama outlines campaign vision during State of the Union speech

U.S. President Barack Obama delivered a campaign-style State of the Union address on Tuesday, taking aim at a "do-nothing" Congress and attempting to fan the flames of populist anger about income disparity as the clock ticks down on November's election.

What's at stake, Obama said in his third State of the Union address, "are not Democratic values or Republican values, but American values. We have to reclaim them."

He had harsh words, however, for his congressional foes in the Republican party.

"As long as I'm president, I will work with anyone in this chamber to build on this momentum," he said inside the ornate chamber of the House of Representatives, packed with legislators, Supreme Court justices and his cabinet secretaries.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New JFK tapes include eerie talk

Newly released final recordings President John F. Kennedy secretly made in the Oval Office include an eerie conversation about what would become the day of his funeral.

While trying to arrange his schedule, Kennedy remarked that Nov. 25 was shaping up to be a "tough day" after his return from Texas and time at Cape Cod.

"It's a hell of a day, Mr. President," a staffer agreed.

The exchange was among the last 45 hours of private recordings Kennedy made. The John F. Kennedy Presidential Library and Museum released the tapes Tuesday.

▶ John F. Kennedy

The tapes include discussions of conflict in Vietnam, Soviet relations and the race to space, plans for the 1964 Democratic Convention and re-election strategy. He made the last one two days before his death.

Kennedy library archivist Maura Porter said that JFK may have been saving them for a memoir.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Boko Haram

- Boko Haram wants to implement strict Shariah law and avenge the deaths of Muslims in communal violence across Nigeria.
- While the sect has begun targeting Christians in the north, the majority of those killed Friday appeared to be Muslim, officials said.

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Security bloodbath follows sect attack

Nigeria's raid raises fears of reprisal as government has been unable to stop violence by radical Islamists

A young man in traditional robes sobbed Tuesday as he stood in a pool of blood, surrounded by bullet-scarred walls left behind after a security raid in Kano, a northern Nigeria city recently assaulted by a radical Islamist sect.

Residents of this dusty neighbourhood in the city pressed shoulder-to-shoulder inside the home, saying soldiers and others killed the man who lived here and his pregnant wife for no reason.

The local police commissioner acknowledged the attack and said it was part of the government's effort to root out the sect known as Boko Haram, responsible for killing at least 185 people in a Friday attack on the country's second-largest city.

Tuesday's killings highlight the dangers posed by possible reprisal killings and arbitrary arrests carried out by Nigerian security services who are trying to stop Boko Haram's increasingly sophisticated attacks. And while the sect remains amorphous and secretive, such assaults may only alienate the same population the government wants to save.

"He didn't belong to any religious group. Is it because of his beard?" asked relative Musa Ibrahim Fatega. "That means you cannot dress the way you are. Is it good? Is this how government is going to treat us?"

Friday's attack in Kano saw Boko Haram members spread through the city, attacking police stations, immigration offices and the local headquarters of the secret police. The attacks came after authorities refused to release suspected sect members earlier arrested, Kano state police commissioner Ibrahim Idris said.

Police say they found 10 car bombs and about 300 unexploded cans after the attack — potentially signalling Boko Haram planned further violence in the city. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AMINU ABUBAKAR/GETTY IMAGES

▶ The governor of Kano state, Rabiu Musa Kwankwaso, centre, and the emir of Kano, Ado Bayero, right, pray in a mosque in Kano on Monday after a wave of attacks claimed by Islamists left about 185 dead and raised fresh fears of civil unrest.

urges Nigeria to respect human rights

Amnesty International issued a statement Tuesday warning the Nigerian government to "not pursue security at the expense of human rights."

"The population in northern Nigeria are caught between being targeted by Boko Haram and Nigeria's counter-terrorism measures that fail to prevent, investigate, prosecute or punish these acts," Amnesty said. Such government operations "often result in new human rights violations perpetrated by the security forces with impunity."

However, the situation remains much more simple for police.

"People attacking police stations, they are terrorists," Kano state police commissioner Ibrahim Idris said. "That's it." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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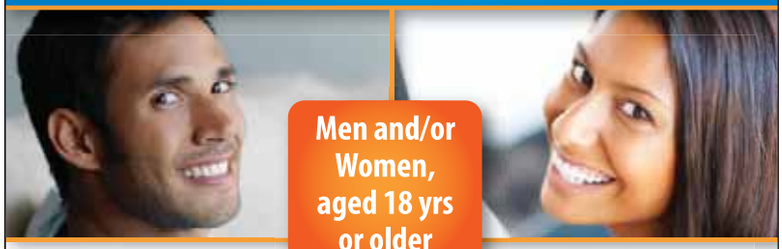

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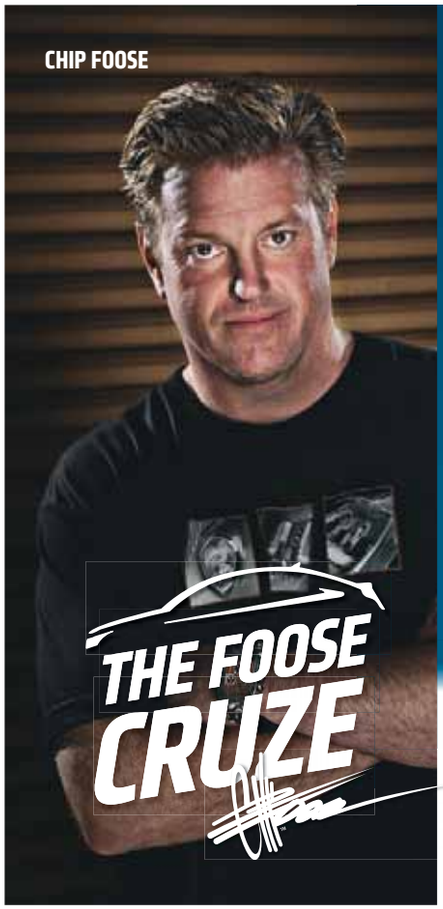

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Chinese police fire on Tibetans

Tension builds as protesters in Sichuan demand religious freedom

About 30 Tibetans injured after Chinese security forces fired into a crowd of protesters in Luhuo, southwest China, were seeking shelter Tuesday in a monastery while police surrounded the building, a Tibetan monk said.

The violence comes amid high tensions after at least 16 Buddhist monks, nuns and other Tibetans self-immolated in the past year. Most have chanted for Tibetan freedom and the return of their spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, who fled to India amid an abortive uprising against Chinese rule in 1959.

A monk from Luhuo county's Shouling monastery said by phone that 33 wounded people were being cared for in a clinic within the compound. At least 50 military vehicles were parked outside the monastery, he said.

"They want to take the injured people away but we won't let them because we don't trust them, we don't know what will happen to them," the monk said.

Accounts of the violence differ, and independent confirmation is impossible due to a heavy security presence and lack of access to outsiders. Tibet activist groups said police fired on about 10,000 peaceful protesters, while the Chinese government says a far smaller number of Tibetans and police clashed after the Tibetans attacked a police station and smashed cars.

The London-based International Campaign for Tibet said three Tibetans were killed and nine wounded, while another group, Free Tibet, said one died and up to 30 others were shot and wounded in Luhuo.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ANGUS MCDONALD/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Tibetan novice monks in Dharmsala, India, take part in a candlelight vigil on Tuesday to protest violence by Chinese police against demonstrators in Tibet.

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Internet top dogs battle for the search

Facebook, Twitter, other social networks say Google monopoly unfair

SCREEN GRAB/FOCUS ON THE USER/METRO

▶ Focus on the User results include Twitter and Facebook, right, but Google+ search results, left, do not.

The two biggest powers on the Internet, Google and Facebook, are in a high-stakes battle to be your search engine.

And this isn't just an online fight: the U.S. Federal Trade Commission and the European Union are investigating whether the Google monopoly unfairly damages other search engines.

Top guns at Facebook have created a new "bookmarklet" to counter Google's attempt to become more Facebook-like.

Google on Jan. 10 released Search Plus, a new search tool. Search Plus scours the Internet through Google and Google Plus, leaving out the world's most popular social-networking sites: Facebook and Twitter.

No fair, said a group described as "some engineers at Facebook, Twitter and MySpace," in consultation with several other social networking companies."

Facebook's Director of Product Blake Ross, also the creator of Firefox, is the man behind this modern-day Trojan War. "It was a simple hack, some code he had thrown together," said Wired co-founder John Battelle. The attack on Google uses a Google slogan: Focus on the user. Focusontheuser.org is Ross's counterattack. The implications, Battelle wrote, are huge.

"It's one thing for a lone hacktivist to do this, it's quite another for a member of the Internet Big Five to publicly call Google out."

Facebook had it coming, an industry insider told the Star. The social network blocks Google from crawling inside its "walled garden." Google was in a panic that Facebook would render it irrelevant. Search Plus is "a step in the right direction." The Facebook fuss in response, he said, "is a view that Google may actually succeed" in creating its own social network. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Investigation

- **Six U.S. states and the European Commission** are currently investigating whether Google violated U.S. antitrust laws.
- **After Google introduced Search Plus,** the FTC added that to its investigation, Reuters and Bloomberg reported Jan. 13.
- **The European Commission** will decide by the end of March whether to charge Google with competition busting, Reuters reports.
- **Ten complaints** have been filed with the EC by British French, German and Spanish companies.

NEW SURVEY

Not enough jobs for the unemployed: StatsCan

Canada had a quarter of a million job vacancies during the summer months last year, but there were three times as many people looking for work, according to a new type of survey from Statistics Canada.

The agency said Tuesday there were 248,000 job vacancies on average during July, August and September 2011, when the national unemployment rate ranged from 7.1 per cent to 7.3 per cent. It now stands at 7.5 per cent.

Even so, the report shows that for every job opening, there were 3.3 Canadians officially looking for work.

The highest vacancy rates were recorded in educational services, followed by construction and manufacturing, and in the relatively low-unemployment provinces of Saskatchewan and Alberta.

The report is the first of its kind from the federal data-collecting agency, so it cannot be compared with previous findings to determine if the number of vacancies was low, high or normal. StatsCan plans to collect data each month from now on, and issue a report quarterly.

An analyst with the agency cautioned the data cannot be interpreted to determine if unemployed Canadians are spurning jobs for any particular reason. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. TUESDAY

TSX	Dollar
- 126.46 (12,395.24)	- 0.16¢ (99.01¢ US)
Oil	**Natural gas**
- 19¢ US ($99.09 US)	$2.58 US (+ 5.7¢ US)
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	$1,664.50 US (- $13.80 US)

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Canada's largest labour unions ponder merging

CAW, CEP presidents say larger union needed because of economy

Two of Canada's biggest private-sector labour unions are exploring the possibility of creating a new, merged organization, a move they believe could spark other unions to join them.

The Canadian Auto Workers and the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers, which have a total of more than 320,000 members, said Tuesday they have been holding preliminary discussions for weeks.

CAW president Ken Lewenza said the move comes as a response to the "incredibly hostile economic environment" its members face and will give the unions a better stance against a "confident employer base" and the Conservative government.

"It's really about saying to employers and governments alike that we're going to strengthen the movement, we're not going to stand pat, we're not going to continue to see membership decline at the expense of our existing members," Lewenza said.

Lewenza said the Canadian Labour Congress — a national umbrella group in Ottawa — has discussed how to strengthen the positions of 50 affiliated unions.

Dave Coles, president of the CEP, said a larger union is necessary because workers are taking a "pounding" in Canada's economic and political environment.

He added that if the unions "get it right" he hopes that other CLC affiliates will look at joining.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Unions' stance

- **The unions said** they've been galvanized by events such as a lockout of employees at a locomotive manufacturing plant in southwestern Ontario.
- **The CAW said** management of the Caterpillar-owned Electro-Motive plant in London, Ont., want employees to agree to have their pay cut in half.
- **The CAW was also** pressured by the federal government last summer while negotiating for its members at Air Canada.
- **The airline and union** reached a settlement in June, but after Labour Minister Lisa Raitt began the steps required to introduce back-to-work legislation.

Economic. Crisis

▶ International Monetary Fund head Christine Lagarde is stressing the precarious nature of the global situation and urging the international community to take immediate action.

REGERS

Canada falling, but still on top: IMF

Canada's recovery is being dragged down by the crisis in Europe and weakening conditions elsewhere, the IMF's latest economic outlook suggests. Unlike our central bank, which predicts 2.8 per cent expansion next year, the IMF says our recovery will be restrained to two per cent, still on top among the G7 nations.

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JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR — THEY'RE CATS

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

OK, class, today's question:

How did we get from seeing eye dogs to emotional support animals?

Air Canada is trying to figure out how to accommodate people who insist on taking their cats on the plane and at the same time protect people who are allergic to cats.

They forgot to ask me, but the answer is obvious. Tell people to leave Kitty at home.

I have nothing against cats, but referring to them as "emotional support animals" and thereby elevating them to the status of seeing eye dogs is a stretch and a clear sign that the entitlement society needs to cough up a hairball and get real.

I realize I'm treading on wafer-thin ice, but if you want an emotional support animal, get a golden retriever. They love everybody, almost as much as they love food, and are happy to see you, especially if you come with food.

> **"And shame on Air Canada for knuckling under. I like peanuts, but the airline had no difficulty depriving me of the tasty legume in order to protect other passengers from anaphylactic shock. As if?"**

Cats, on the other hand, barely notice other species that aren't dinner. They may crawl into your lap and go to sleep, but only because it's a warm place to go to sleep. They don't discriminate, as anyone who has ever awakened to find a cat sleeping on their face can tell you.

But, even if Kitty loves you, why return the favour by stuffing Kitty in a tiny box and making her fly economy?

(Just to make it clear. I'm an equal opportunity curmudgeon: The same goes for shih tzus and the like. Leave your adorable mutt at home in the care of a kompetent kennel.)

What's really annoying is this tendency to escalate beyond all reason. It's one thing to feel the urge to take Kitty to visit Aunt Bossy in Halifax, quite another to declare Kitty an "emotional support animal," raising her companionship to the level of ersatz human right. Right.

And shame on Air Canada for knuckling under. I like peanuts, but the airline had no difficulty depriving me of the tasty legume in order to protect other passengers from anaphylactic shock. As if?

Air Canada needs to know I'm addicted to peanuts. Once I start, I can't stop. Without peanuts, I'll never make it to Halifax. Those little cracker thingies don't fill the bill; I require emotional-support nuts.

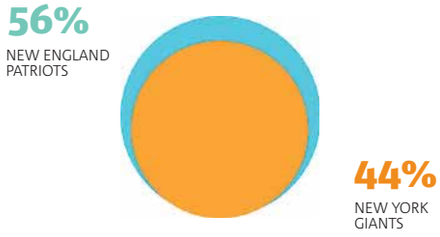
And if I don't get them, I'll complain to my friendly neighbourhood Human Rights Commission, which never met a complaint it didn't like.

Then, I'm going into hiding.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Who do you think will win the Super Bowl?

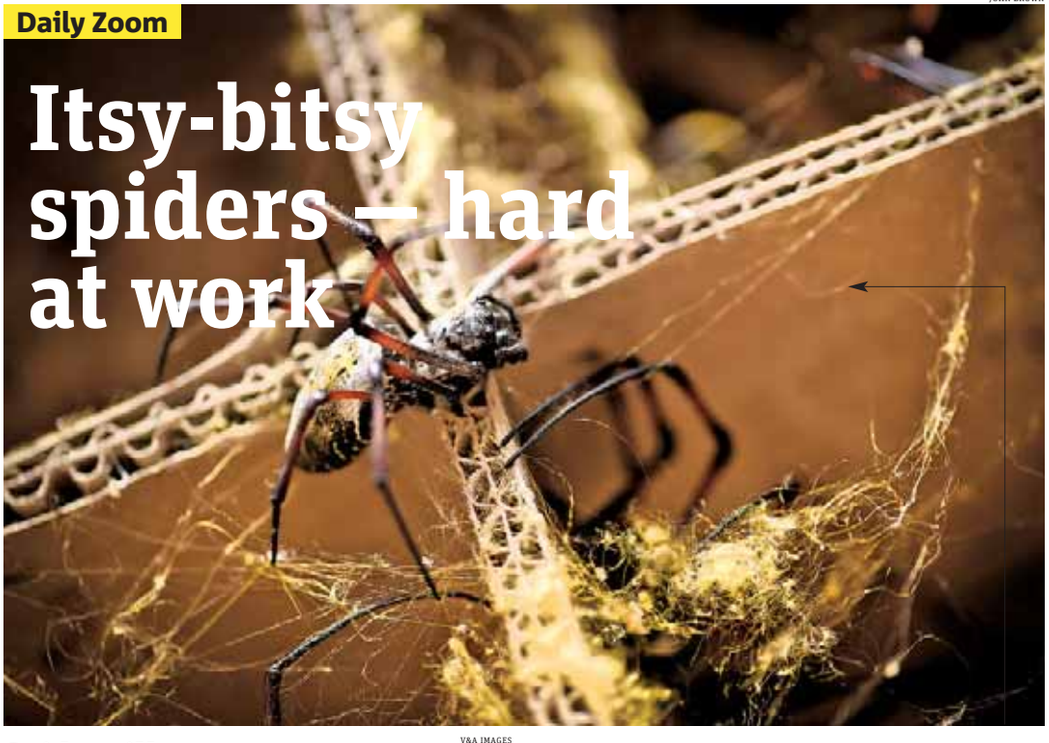


Local tweets

- **@_TheRealAidan:** We live in a cold world that someone would kill a barber. I have NO sympathy for the person who shot Chrissy idgaf
- **@andreamoffat:** My heart out goes out to all the people mourning in Malvern RIP Chrissy:)
- **@IRideNorth:** Dear murderers Please don't try 2 turn Toronto into a violent city because its not & your trying to bring down our positive energy #toronto
- **@ChrisBinns3:** Jays going to have a really good bullpen
- **@davidfeldt:** Just when you think you've seen everything, Apple overdelivers in a MAJOR way. $AAPL stock trading north of $450 in after hour market
- **@jazg4:** @drake and lil jazz bout to spaz, can you keep up? I'm just feelin' sorry for whoever has to sweep up. #NHLAllStar

JOHN BROWN

Daily Zoom



Itsy-bitsy spiders — hard at work

Spider silk cape put on display

LONDON. This may not fit arachnophobes!

A golden cape created from silk spun by more than a million spiders goes on display at London's Victoria and Albert Museum.

The hand-woven garment took more than four years to make from the silk of 1.2 million female golden orb spiders, native to Madagascar. MWN

V&A IMAGES

▶ Makers say spider silk is lighter than normal silk.

> **"We wanted to make something (in which) you'd feel cocooned like a spider web. ... There is a strange dichotomy between the repulsive and 'poetic' in spiders."**
> SIMON PEERS, TEXTILE EXPERT AND CO-CREATOR

How 80 people collected silk

PROCESS. To create the textiles, spiders are collected each morning and harnessed in 'silking' devices.

Trained handlers take out the silk from 24 spiders at a time.

Unlike mulberry silk from silkworms, in which the pupa is killed in its cocoon, the spiders are returned to the wild at the end of the day. MWN

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Winners and losers

Even before awards night, there are clearly some overlooked films heading into the Oscar season ▶ But there are a few big surprises, some odd nods and Canadian talent in the mix

NED EHRBAR
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN LOS ANGELES

In the first year where the number of Best Picture nominees can be anywhere between five and 10, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences settled on nine Tuesday morning, with The Artist, The Descendants, Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close, The Help, Hugo, Midnight in Paris, Moneyball, The Tree of Life and War Horse doing battle for the big prize. Here's a look at the winners and losers heading into Oscar season.

BIGGEST WINNERS

Martin Scorcese's delightful Hugo garnered the most nominations with 11, with popular favourite The Artist right behind at 10. Stephen Spielberg's War Horse and David Fincher's The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo received six and five nominations, respectively, though neither made it into the Best Director category. But the biggest winner of is Bridesmaids — and comedy in general — with the raunchy box office hit pulling in nominations for Best Adapted Screenplay as well as Best Supporting Actress for Melissa McCarthy.

BIGGEST LOSERS

The biggest omission seems to be in the Best Animated Feature race, which Spielberg's The Adventures of Tintin has been winning handily at other awards shows. But the European favourite didn't earn a mention in this category. Outside of animation, Clint Eastwood's Oscar-bait misfire J. Edgar failed to earn a single nomination.

BIGGEST SURPRISES

The pair of nominations for Extremely Loud & Incredibly Close — Best Picture and Best Supporting Actor — seemed to come out of nowhere, as the film hasn't made an impact in any other awards races. A Better Life star Demián Bichir, who also earned a Screen Actors Guild nomination for his outstanding performance, is a welcome surprise that will hopefully bring attention to an amazing but overlooked drama. And while Iran's A Separation is unstoppable in the Foreign Language category, many expected Angelina Jolie's In the Land of Blood and Honey to at least garner a nomination, as it did at the Golden Globes.

Local talent

Canadians at the Oscars

- **Nominations** Toronto-born, Montreal-raised acting legend Christopher Plummer nabbed a Best-Supporting Actor nomination for Beginners.
- **Score** Toronto-born composer Howard Shore is up for best score for Hugo.
- **Language** Philippe Falardeau's Monsieur Lazhar is nominated for best foreign-language film.
- **Short** Montreal's Patrick Doyon is up for best animated film for his short Dimanche/Sunday. Meanwhile, Calgary-based filmmakers Amanda Forbis and Wendy Tilby are in the running for their Prairie-based picture Wild Life.
- **Mixing** Welland, Ont.-raised David Giammarco hit a home run with a nomination for best sound mixing for Moneyball.

2 scene

Court

A trial to decide the broadcast rights of the Golden Globe Awards is set to start after a judge and attorneys resolved last-minute issues concerning witnesses and exhibits. U.S. District Judge A. Howard Matz urged attorneys to streamline the case.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Teen star Keke Palmer moves on from Nickelodeon with a more adult role in 'Joyful Noise'

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How movies teach us about life's Grey areas

Looking to survive a plane crash in the Andes? Or how to live as a shipwrecked loner on a tropical island?
Just press 'play' and sit down with a bowl of popcorn

CONTRIBUTED

A scene from The Grey, which opens Friday. The film's plot revolves around an oil drilling team that struggles to survive in the wild after a plane crash.

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

This Christmas I got a book titled The Worst-Case Scenario Survival Handbook.

Contained within were tidbits of information on how to survive shark attack, a volcano eruption, even what to do when the pilot passes out leaving you to land the plane.

It's an interesting read, but I am a visual person and have learned much more about survival from watching movies than from the pages of this book.

From this weekend's The Grey, a man versus nature tale starring Liam Neeson, I learned that empty airplane booze bottles can be broken, wedged between your fingers and repurposed as Wolverine-style knuckles of death.

Hopefully I'll never have to use that trick, but it is just one of many lessons learned at the movies.

Alive, the story of Uruguay's rugby team whose plane crashed in the middle of the Andes mountains, I learned that cannibalism is a good way to stave off hunger pangs.

A similar lesson was taught in the Robert Redford film Jeremiah Johnson, based on a real-life trapper named John Johnston, nicknamed "Liver Eater Johnston" for his habit for cutting out and eating the livers of men he killed.

From the true-to-life mountain climbing movies 127 Hours and Touching the Void, I learned perseverance.

In the former a man is wedged literally between a rock and a hard place. To get free he cuts off his own arm with a pocketknife. Now that's stick-to-itiveness!

The latter sees a man with a severely broken leg crawling his way out of a deep crevice to safety.

From Cast Away, Tom Hanks's stranded-on-a-desert-isle movie, I learned how to build a raft from a portable toilet, and how, in lieu of friends, a soccer ball with a bloody handprint can be man's best friend.

Should you find yourself stranded on a snowshoer mountain top think back to the Lance Henriksen movie Survival Quest; not only does it teach viewers to forage for food and raft raging waters, but also how to dig an ice cave to survive the bitter cold.

"From this weekend's The Grey, a man versus nature tale starring Liam Neeson, I learned that empty airplane booze bottles can be broken, wedged between your fingers and repurposed as Wolverine-style knuckles of death."

In case of a zombie attack the classic George A. Romero movies teach us all we need to know. Remember the rhyme: "Shoot the living dead in the head."

Should you find yourself in mortal combat with a monster, another tip learned from dozens of other horror films suggests that once you've slain the creature, don't double check to make sure its really dead.

CBS pumps up the raunch factor

Network's Monday night comedies push the barriers with risque jokes — topic include anal sex, prostitution, herpes, flatulence, bowel movements and drug use

Last week seemed typical for CBS' sitcoms on Monday night, television's most popular — and raunchy —night of comedy.

There was a strip club visit on How I Met Your Mother, lap dance included. The stars of 2 Broke Girls mistakenly believed an upstairs neighbour ran a brothel. Two and a Half Men included jokes about masturbation, oral sex, sex with moms, trading cigarettes for sex and two scenes with loud noises of passion from behind closed doors.

A quick count found 53 sex jokes on the network's four comedies, which includes Mike & Molly. There were also nine jokes about flatulence or bowel movements, and two scenes where marijuana use was clearly implied — one with a teenage boy.

The subject matter leaves some viewers queasy, such as Amanda St. Amand, mother of two college students from St. Louis. She said the shows go past raunchy fun to just plain raunchy. She rarely watches them anymore.

CBS and producers of the comedies strongly defend their work and point to the shows' success as evidence they're doing something right. Two and a Half Men is TV's favourite comedy, How I Met Your Mother has its best ratings ever in its seventh year and 2 Broke Girls is a breakout freshman hit.

CBS Entertainment President Nina Tassler said the comedies are "a little risque," but that the characters are living truthfully within their particular circumstances.

"The fact that there is such strong ratings growth for all of them means that those shows are resonating," Tassler said. "It means that the characters are resonating. It means that their dialogue is really landing with audiences."

2 Broke Girls opened its episode with the two lead characters trading four raunchy jokes with the leering cook in the diner where they work.

Show creator Michael Patrick King reacted strongly earlier this month when he was questioned at a meeting of the Television Critics Association about jokes in his show regarding anal sex.

"It's 8:30 on Monday on CBS in 2012," said King, former producer of Sex and the City for HBO. "It's a very different world than 8:30 on Monday on CBS in 1994. ... I consider our jokes really classy dirty. I think they're high low-brow. I think they're fun and sophisticated and naughty, and I think everybody likes a good naughty joke."

In last Monday's episode, which had four jokes about prostitution and four about herpes, Caroline and Max go to see the madam of a brothel and knock on the wrong door to be greeted by a man wearing a dog collar and leash.

One viewer, 36-year-old Allison Trembly of Denver, Colo., said she's a fan of the Monday comedies. "I can relate to the humour," said Trembly, who is single and an economic development and marketing specialist. "Sometimes I wonder if the audience gets some of it. But they must because the night is highly rated."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

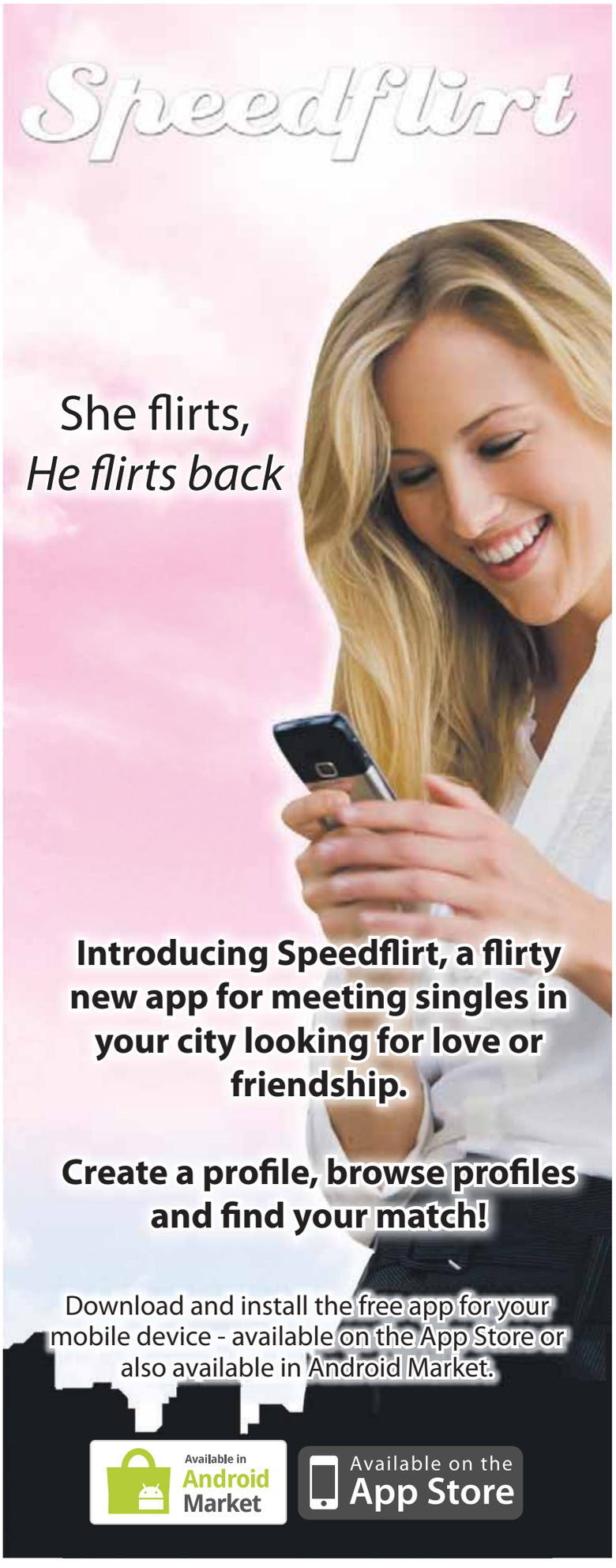
CBS

▶ Ashton Kutcher and Sophie Winkleman get a little cosy in Two and a Half Men.

▶ The raunch resonates with viewers: 2 Broke Girls is a breakout freshman hit.

Where's the line?

▶ "That's one of the great things about broadcast television is nobody really knows what's appropriate anymore. It's a floating target." – Chuck Lorre, whose prolific production company oversees Mike & Molly and Two and a Half Men.



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Stage Notes

JONATHAN NAYMARK
SCENEOPOLIS.COM

Potted Potter shines

Wands out! This parody of Harry Potter is pure magic

How do you condense seven books with more than a dozen characters into a 70-minute, two-man show? Even more challenging when the source material — J.K. Rowling's Harry Potter series — is beloved by millions worldwide.

Comedians Daniel Clarkson and Jefferson Turner have done just that in Potted Potter: The Unauthorized Harry Potter Experience — A Parody by Dan and Jeff. The show celebrates and pokes gentle fun at Rowling's modern classics.

Potted Potter stormed London's West End. Opening on Feb. 11 at the Panasonic Theatre, Toronto is the first stop on Potted Potter's first North American tour!

The former Children's BBC hosts divide the Harry Potter universe unequally between the two of them. Turner plays the boy wizard while Clarkson inhabits the persona of almost every other Harry Potter character, playing everyone from Hermione to Voldemort.

The family play is suitable for kids aged six and up. Potted Potter's runs from Feb. 11 to March 4. A second extension has been announced and pre-sale tickets will be available through MasterCard's Priceless Toronto from Jan. 30. Save 25% on select shows with sceneopolis.com.

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Colman's got the chops

Britain's Olivia Colman steps into the spotlight with critically acclaimed performances in The Iron Lady and Tyrannosaur, which opens Friday

REGAN REID
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Olivia Colman may not be a household name yet, but the 37-year-old British actress is having a breakout year. She's currently starring alongside Meryl Streep in The Iron Lady and she delivers a heartbreaking performance in Tyrannosaur, which opens Friday.

In Tyrannosaur, Colman plays Hannah, a Christian shopkeeper who publicly exudes warmth and kindness, but who is tormented and abused by her husband at home.

The film's writer and director, Paddy Considine, hired Colman after the two worked together on the 2007 comedy, Hot Fuzz. Though Colman is best known for her comedic chops, Tyrannosaur is anything but funny.

Despite the dark subject matter, Colman says she wanted to play Hannah from the first moment she read the script.

"I liked that she wasn't a victim. No matter what she endured at home, she was a soldier," she says.

"She'd still go out every day and face the world and still offer love to people, which I thought was a mark of someone incredibly strong."

And though the scenes were demanding, she was up for the challenge.

"You want to play someone who's different from you," she says. "You want to hopefully do something like that justice. And I wanted to make Paddy proud. He took kind of a gamble giving me the main female part."

The gamble paid off. Colman was awarded the World Cinema Special Jury Prize for Dramatic Breakout Performances at the Sundance Film Festival last year and won Best Actress at the British Independent Film Awards in November.

On Jan. 17, however, she was upset to learn that she did not receive a nomination for a British Academy of Film and Television Award (BAFTA), Britain's top honour.

"I really did feel genuinely heartbroken," she says. "I let myself think that I might get a BAFTA. I dreamt of [that] since I was a girl."

But two days after she was snubbed by the British Academy, she was awarded British Actress of the Year by the London Film Critics' Circle for her work in both Tyrannosaur and The Iron Lady.

Colman, in The Iron Lady, had an opportunity to work with Meryl Streep, who played Margaret Thatcher.

"It is so lovely to meet one of your heroes and to realise that she is absolutely as good as I've always thought she was — she's better."

In the film, Colman plays Carol Thatcher, daughter of British Prime Minister. Donning a blonde wig, "hideous" clothes and a prosthetic nose, and speaking with a distinct lisp, Colman is virtually unrecognizable in the role.

But she was anxious that her impersonation of Carol, who is very well-known in Britain (she was even a contestant on 2009's I'm a Celebrity... Get Me out of Here!) would be criticized by the British public. "The pressure was horrible," she says.

In the end, she says she felt lucky that everyone would "have their eyes on Meryl, so I [could] probably get away with my attempt at the impression."

Judging by her critical success, her portrayal passed the test.

Colman will next be seen on the big screen alongside Bill Murray and Laura Linney in Hyde Park on Hudson, in which she takes on the role of yet another British public figure — Queen Elizabeth.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Rising star Olivia Colman

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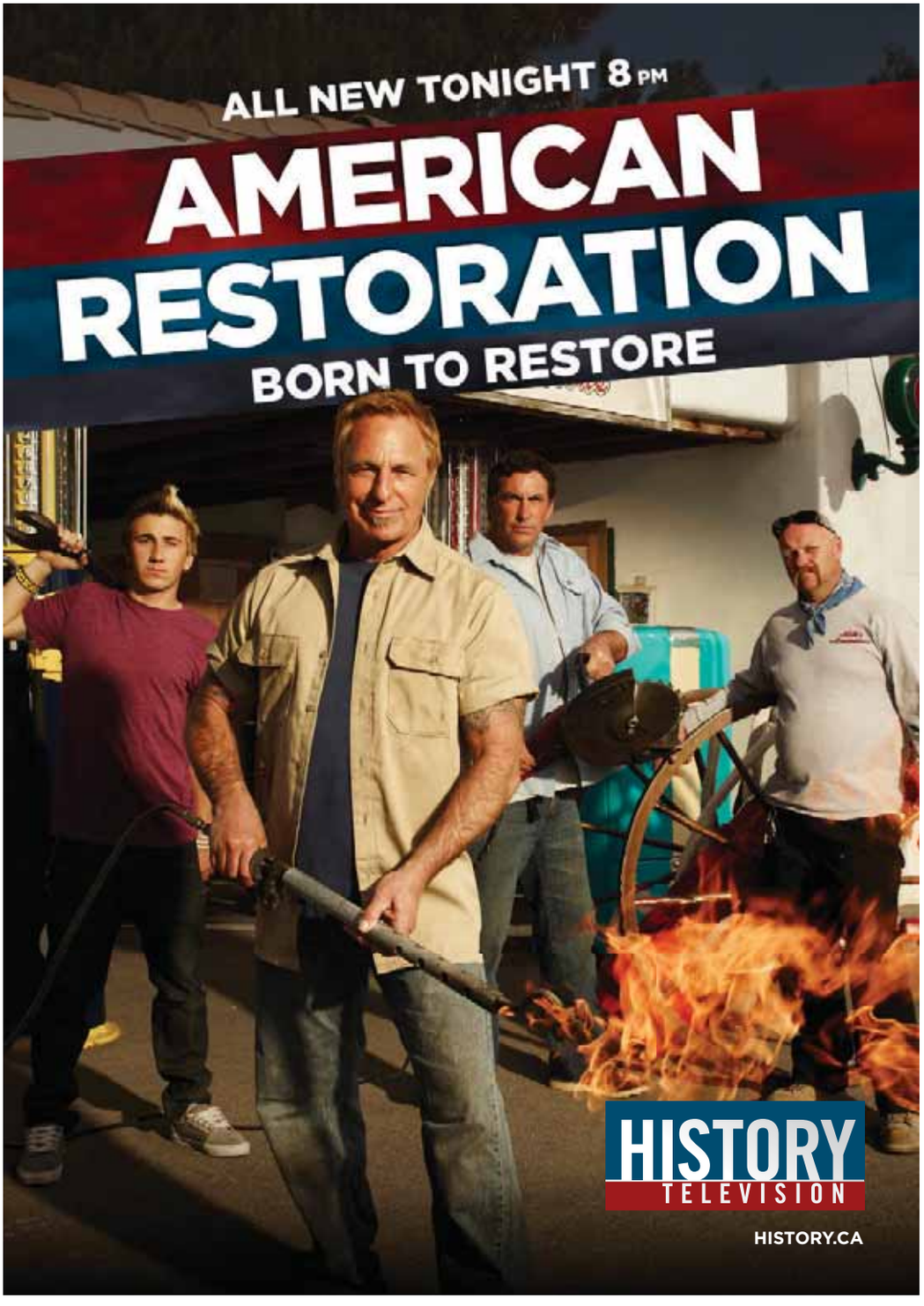


I saw mommy kissing ... 10 guys in a hot tub

Emily Maynard becomes the first single mom to star on the Bachelorette

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Here's the thing about The Bachelor and The Bachelorette: If you want to put yourself in a ridiculous situation by vying for the "love" of some stranger while a group of other similarly-dressed people do the same on national TV, that's fine. You are a (semi) rational adult and that's your weird bag. However, it's when kids are involved that I get the heebie-jeebies.

It was announced yesterday that Emily Maynard, the 25-year-old single mom who was the chosen one on The Bachelor with Brad Womack, but then broke up with him shortly thereafter, will now be the star of the eighth season of The Bachelorette.

But isn't it confusing enough for little children when their parents date multiple people/make-out half-dressed in hot tubs without being on network TV?

▶ Emily Maynard is the new Bachelorette.

Although there is no word on what kind of role Maynard's six-year-old daughter will play in the series, the ABC press releases are quick to point out that Maynard is the first single mom to star in the series. Maynard's little girl also appeared on The Bachelor.

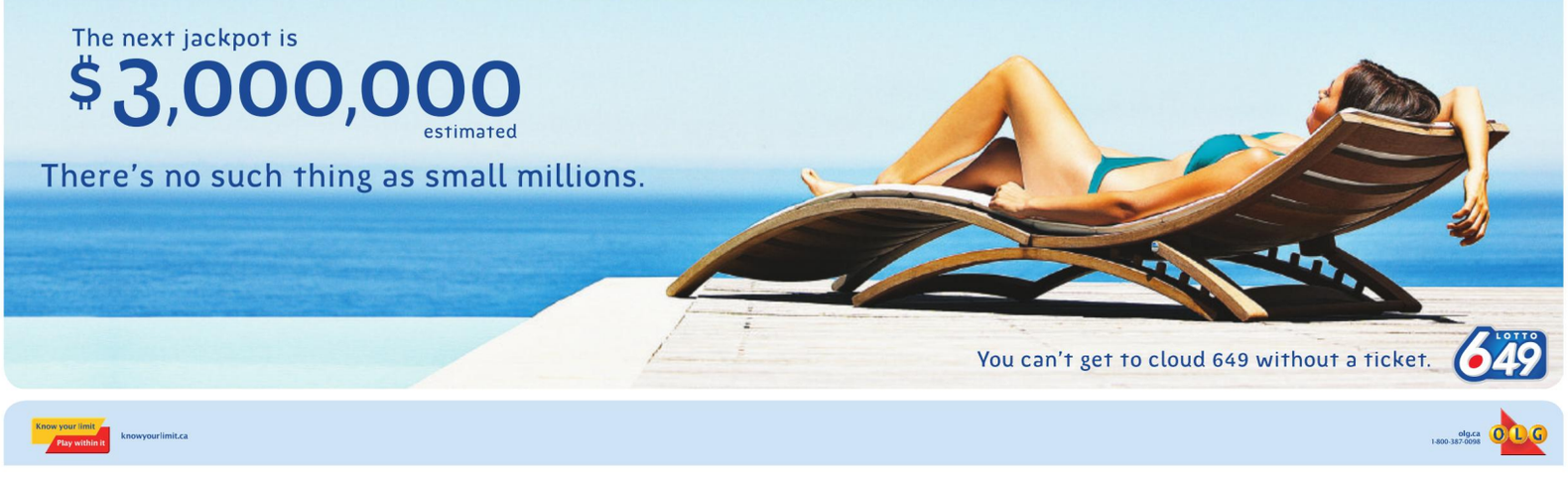
Look. It's great that single moms can be on The Bachelorette.

In fact, the series needs to broaden their casting net — more single moms! More single dads!

How about single granddads? Heck, what about a contestant who isn't white? But isn't it confusing enough for little children when their parents date multiple people/make out half-dressed in hot tubs without being on network TV?

Let's hope ABC won't showboat the little girl for ratings, like they did with single dad Jason Mesnick's then four-year-old son Ty on The Bachelor.

Let's leave that poor parenting to Teen Mom, shall we?



Four must try spa trends

From sound therapy to family-friendly spas, there are plenty of fresh treatments to test out

DISNEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Disney's family resort and spa Aulani in Hawaii.

1
Family Affair

More spas are accommodating adults and kids together. "The new thing is that it's the family. People want to go with their children to spas. Not all of them, of course. Some want to go without," said Susie Ellis, president of the online spa portal SpaFinder. "We're seeing now the spas responding and very much making it more of a welcome place for kids." Ellis predicts more will reconsider age restrictions. Kid-specific spas are also on the rise, Ellis said.

2
Colour, Light, Music, Vibration

Incorporating them as ambient afterthoughts is nothing new for the spa industry. Now they're 'becoming the main event,' a report from SpaFinder said. One innovation is software that creates real-time music, tones, beats and other sounds like wind rustling and rivers to beats generated by a therapist's movements in tandem with the client's bodily responses during massages, SpaFinder said. The client leaves with a CD of the 'well-being music-art' they helped create.

MIRAVAL RESORT & SPA/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ While music used to be an ambient afterthought in spas, it's now an integral part of many treatments.

COQOON SPA AT INDIGO PEARL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ 'The Nest' at Coqoon Spa in Phuket.

3
Extra wow factor

Some spas are trying to wow and woo with unusual, eye-popping decor that defies traditional minimalism. In Thailand, a luxurious rainforest wicker treehouse, 'The Nest,' serves as a private spa suite suspended from tree branches at the Coqoon Spa at Indigo Pearl in Phuket.

4
Cold and ice

With saunas, steam rooms, Whirlpool baths and rock massages, spas have traditionally used heat to destress and detoxify, but the industry is taking a cue from the Romans, who more than 2,000 years ago finished spa-like experiences with a trip to the 'frigidarium.' Look for more ice therapies and cold rooms alternated with hot treatments to reduce pain and inflammation in muscles and joints, Ellis said. At ESPA locations around the world, clients can scoop ice crystals from fountains to rub down after saunas. At the Qua Baths & Spa in Caesars Palace Las Vegas, visitors can head to the 'arctic ice room' to sit amid falling snow as a more gentle transition from heat and steam than the usual cold plunge into a pool.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

RICHARD DREW/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Spa expos are one place to learn about new therapies.

3 life

Travel in brief

Over the decades, The Beatles, Jimi Hendrix, The Grateful Dead, U2 and hundreds of other acts have played the legendary outdoor stage at Red Rocks Amphitheatre, nestled between two 91-metre sandstone monoliths in the Rocky Mountains foothills outside Denver. On Jan. 27, the hip-hop group Atmosphere and Grammy-winning rapper Common, shown, are headlining the venue's first concert in the middle of winter.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MARK EVELEIGH
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Somewhere down the hill we can hear a scrabbling in the undergrowth. A troop of raccoon-like coatis are hunting nearby but the jungle is too thick to reveal anything but shadows. A hummingbird — 'flower-kissers' they call it here — flits ahead as we move along a trail that is barely larger than the animal tracks that zizag through the bush. During the last three hours we have seen few signs of human habitation. It is hard to believe that the bustle of Rio de Janeiro city centre lies just a short distance to our east.

Jungle guide Raf Kiss checks the reading on his GPS: "We're steadily gaining altitude," he says. The burning tension in my thighs confirms his statement but in less than an hour we are victoriously clambering up a bamboo pole onto the giant boulder that marks the summit of Pedra Branca (White Stone Mountain). Looking across the forested slopes I realize that most of the land between here and the city remains a pristine wilderness.

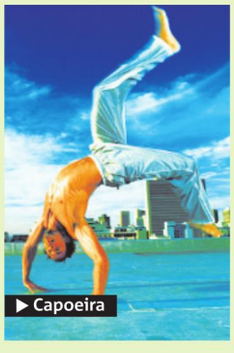
"It is hard to believe that the bustle of Rio de Janeiro city centre lies just a short distance to our east."

Rio de Janeiro is one of the world's great unsung trekking destinations. Both of the world's two biggest urban forests can be found here: the immense Pedra Branca Massif and Tijuca National Park. Only here can you find 120 square kilometres of rainforest just 15 minutes from some of the world's most famous beaches.

Tijuca boasts more than 30 kilometres of near-deserted trails but there are also several much easier treks rising almost directly out of Rio's gleaming sand, such as Dois Irmãos and Morro da Urca, home to large families of monkeys. The view from either of these peaks takes in two of the wonders of the world: the natural beauty of Guanabara Bay and Christ the Redeemer on his Corcovado perch high over the city.

If you are after a more challenging expedition, however, Pedra Branca is capable of surpassing all your expectations. When Raf's trusty GPS finally let us down, and we trekked right across Pedra Branca from end to end, and I gained a heightened respect for the world's largest urban forest.

Quick tips



▶ Capoeira

TREK

- The tour guide Raf Kiss specialises in motorcycle tours (for the truly adventurous) but for those who want to take in the sights at a slower pace, he is also an enthusiastic leader of treks through all the great parks of Rio. **www.mirantes-mototravel.com**

STAY

- Several hostels are particularly geared to trekking enthusiasts. Try Ipanema's Mango Tree Hostel (www.mangotreehostel.com) or Santa Teresa's Rio Hostel, since both offer trustworthy guides. **www.riohostel.com**

TRY

- Capoeira, the ancient combat dance art form. Instructor Wagner Rocha Gonçalves teaches either on the beach or in his centre in Rocinha. He can most easily be contacted through the Mango Tree Hostel. **mangotreehostel.com**

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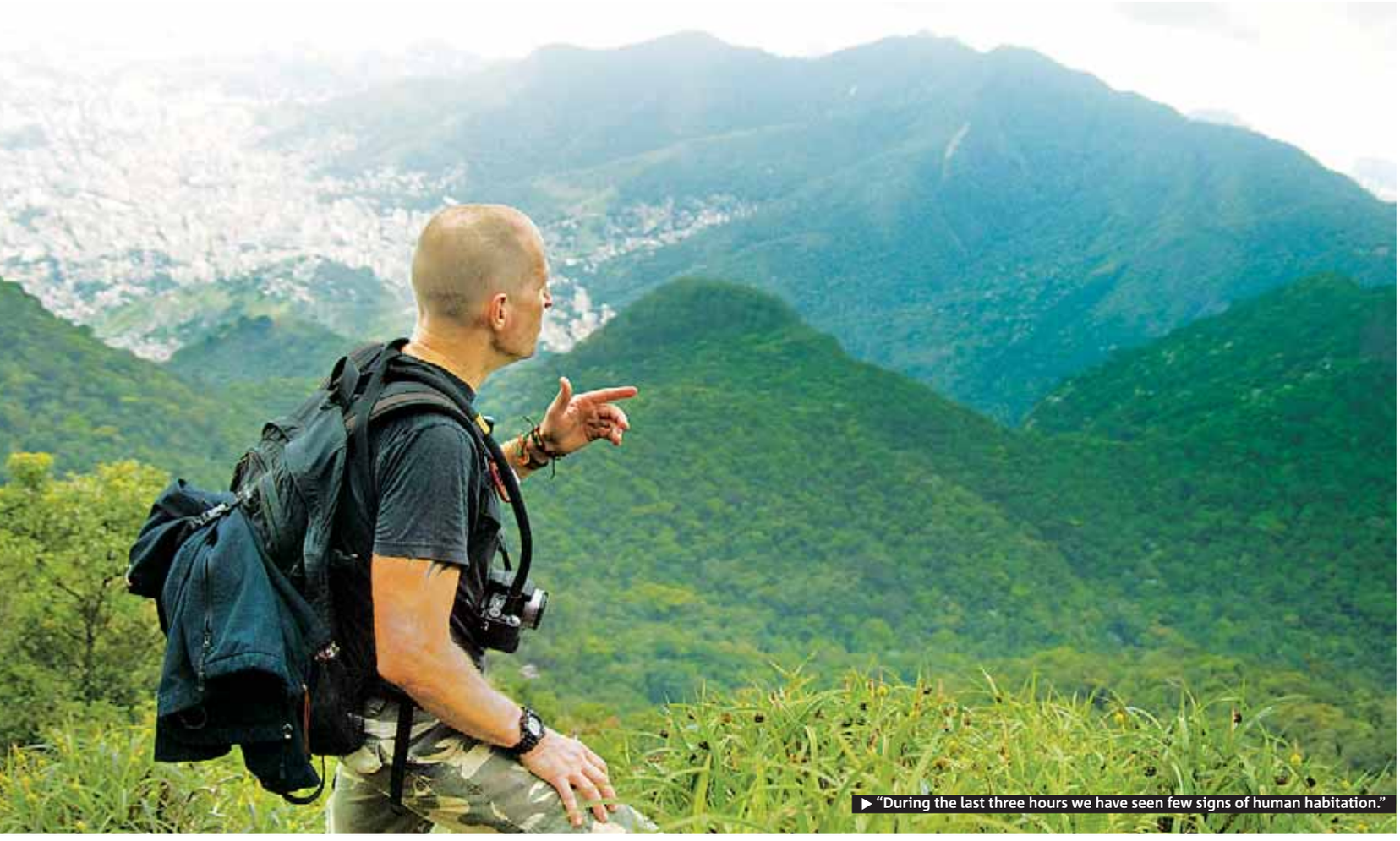

▶ "During the last three hours we have seen few signs of human habitation."

3 MUST-SEES

IPANEMA

▶ Ipanema has been called 'the world's healthiest beach.' Apart from an ideal place for relaxing it offers cycling, running, volleyball, foot-volley, surfing and several (free) beachfront gyms.

CORCOVADO

▶ Few visitors can resist making a 'pilgrimage' to Christ the Redeemer on Corcovado (itself part of Tijuca NP). The cog train makes for an enjoyable ride but choose a clear day or the head of the 38m high statue will be lost in the clouds.

SUGARLOAF

▶ The cable car to the top of Sugarloaf Mountain is Rio's premier tourist draw-card. Just don't be scared when you look down.

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Meet the European Capital of 2012

Discover Guimarães ▶ That's pronounced "gee-mer-ine-sh"
It was here that Portugal was born — and history lies in every corner

CÉLIA PEDROSO
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

One of the most beautiful cities in Portugal is also one of the least well-known. But in 2012, Guimarães will finally get to show itself to the world as one of the two European capitals of Culture for 2012. (The other is Maribor in Slovenia.)

Located in northern Portugal, around 50 kilometres from Porto, Guimarães is often called the 'birth-city' of Portugal as it was here that the country was founded. It is thought that the first king, Afonso Henriques, was born there.

Many died here, too: It was near Guimarães that the battle of São Mamede took place in 1128, a fundamental milestone in Portugal independence over the Galicians (the new state was recognized in 1143). With this in mind you won't be surprised to see so many monuments throughout this picturesque town. The Palace of the Dukes of Bragança (the last dynasty to rule in Portugal) is an impressive fortified mansion dating from the 15th century that underwent major restoration works between 1937-59. Visiting it is a bit of a child's dream; the building is full of objects and secret passages as well as many features of northern European architecture — including the unusual cylindrical chimneys.

METRO NEWS

▶ Largo do Toural

"The whole town has preserved its medieval charm — the city centre was recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site"

(The whole town has preserved its medieval charm — the city centre was recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site in 2001.)

There's also the castle that dates back to the 10th century, essential in the defence against attacks by Normans and Moors, with different improvements throughout the centuries.

Also worth visiting are the churches — particularly Nossa Senhora da Conceição and Capela de S. Miguel.

Walking in the city reveals surprising monuments including the gothic porch, Padrão do Salado, built in 1342, or the narrow Santa Maria street, one of the oldest streets in Guimarães. To get the best view, take the cable car to the Penha mountain sanctuary. Largo do Toural, Praça da Oliveira and Praça de Santiago are beautiful old squares that are getting a new lease of life with lively, busy bars, a hotspot for a young crowd.

It's not all history here.

Quick tips

▶ Casa de Sezim

STAY

- Casa de Sezim is an aristocratic house from the 18th century (sezim.pt). Pousada de Santa Marinha is a former monastery dating back to the 12th century (pousadas.pt).

EAT

- This is the region of vinho verde, an enjoyable sparkling green wine. Or try the starters and 'petiscos' — a Portuguese kind of tapas — at Nora do Zé da Curva (Viela Traseiras Santo António).

SHOP

- This area is famous for its local handicrafts including pottery and embroideries — the famous 'love handkerchiefs'. And for the sweet and eggy cakes traditionally made in convents.

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TOP EVENTS FOR 2012

In honour of its European Capital of Culture title, Guimarães will be thriving with 600 events including art exhibitions, music, theatre and cinema. Check out guimaraes2012.pt.

JANUARY

- The official launch takes place on the 21st of January with an outdoor performance by the Spanish theatre company La Fura dels Baus.

MARCH

- Belgian composer Wim Mertens will premier his latest work, 'Europa', a collaboration with the Portuguese Orchestra Fundação Orquestra Studio.

JULY

- This is a good month for concerts, with shows by the German singer Ute Lemper (pictured) and American guitarist Pat Metheny.

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Warm welcome for icy town

Entrepreneurs take an idea from Europe and give it a Canadian twist **Check out Montreal's Snow Village**

Entrepreneurs are using Canada's most abundant winter resource — ice and snow — as the building blocks for a new cold-weather tourist attraction in Canada.

A new village opened this month in Montreal, with promoters hoping that an idea popular in Scandinavia might also catch on in this country.

Already a hit in Finland and Norway for the past decade, Snow Village is making its way across the Atlantic for the first time this winter.

It's not only the first time the concept has been tried in North America — it's also the first time such a 'village' has been built just minutes from a major metropolitan area.

The European versions are in remote areas accessible by plane and they often involve an extended stay. Montreal's village, by comparison, is accessible by public transit.

Guy Belanger says he fell in love with the concept after visiting Finland's Lainio Snow Village, about 200 kilometres north of the Arctic Circle.

"We started working on the project a few years ago. We saw it first in Finland and fell in love with it," said Belanger, one of the promoters behind the Montreal project.

"The whole concept is to build a village around the ice hotel, so what we're doing here is we're reproducing a city of the world every year around the hotel."

For this inaugural year, that city is Montreal.

Replicas of local landmarks like Saint Joseph's Oratory, the Olympic Stadium and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts have been built out of ice and snow around the hotel.

Montreal's winter wonderland village includes a 30-room ice hotel, a mix of standard rooms, suites and igloos. The hotel isn't the first of its kind; there's also an ice hotel just outside Quebec City.

The village looks like a collection of dome-like igloos from the outside, highlighted with blue lights on the sides and down the entrance hall. One of the first things people see when they go through the door to the village is a detailed ice sculpture of the Montreal skyline with such landmarks as Notre-Dame Basilica.

The long hallways connecting to the rooms are dotted with more red and blue lights and each room has a number that reinforces the winter theme, such as -5 and the really chilly sounding -30.

The structures, which are formed by packed snow blown onto frames which are later removed, have walls that are three metres thick.

Beds are comfy, but guests are equipped with warm sleeping bags for their sack time.

Some of the rooms have themes. One focused on hockey has an icy Stanley Cup and a sculpture of a Canadiens player. Hockey pucks are set into the footboard of the bed and a pair of seats from the old Montreal Forum complete the decor.

Other theme rooms nod to Montreal's seasons and festivals.

There are inevitable comparisons between the site and Quebec City's famous carnival, but Montreal is banking on the "village" aspect of the venture and also the fact that it lasts the whole winter.

"It's a tourist attraction that's not just for a week or two but for the entire season," Belanger says.

A 60-seat ice restaurant with chairs and tables made of ice and overseen by well-known Montreal chef Eric Gonzalez, is open for lunch during the week and for dinner on Fridays and weekends.

Items on the menu include salmon and deer and a warm glass of wine.

Also on site is a 250-seat ice bar and patio where temperatures are always below zero.

Businesses and companies can book an ice conference centre, with a 200-person capacity, for meetings this winter.

There's also a spot for so-called "white weddings," allowing couples to exchange vows in the frozen chapel in what organizers dub a 'fairy-tale like' setting, a replica of Montreal's famous Oratory.

"White weddings is something that people are very interested in. That's why we wanted to make sure it was part of the village," Belanger said.

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PHOTOS: PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Check in to the hotel for a chilly stay.

▶ One of the theme rooms includes an ice carving of the Stanley Cup.

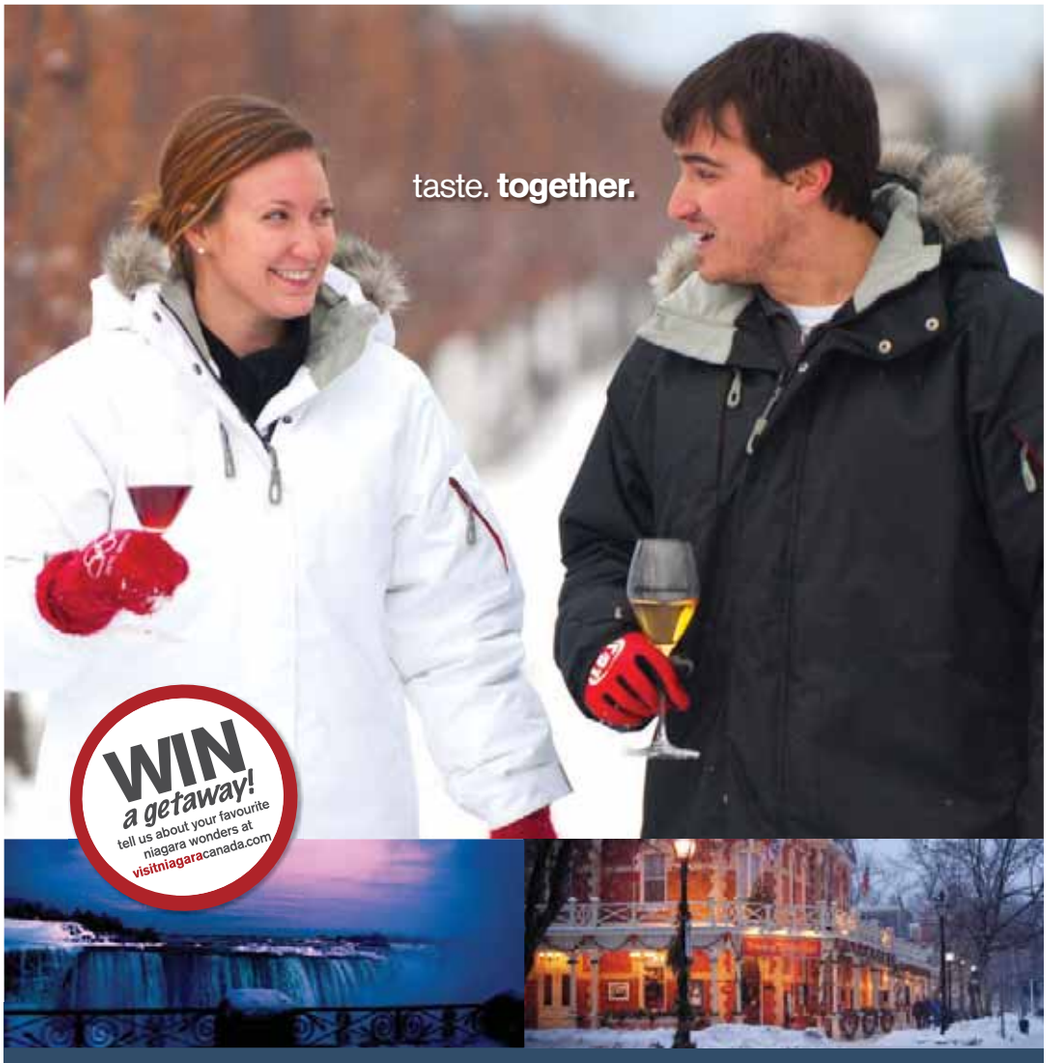
If you go...

- Snow Village is located at Parc Jean-Drapeau, a few minutes walk from the Parc Jean Drapeau Metro station. It will be open from Jan. 6 to March 31. Adult admission is $13 on weekdays and $17 on weekends. There are also children's and family rates.
- A standard room in the ice hotel starts at $259 per person, which includes use of a thermal sleeping bag. A night in a "polar igloo" goes for $195.
- For more information or to make a reservation, call 514-788-2181 or toll-free 1-855-788-2181 or visit villagedesneiges.com or snowvillagecanada.com.

▶ Catch a chilly dinner in the dining room of the hotel.

Ice village facts

- Organizers hope to attract 80,000 visitors this year.
- The cost of the village was $2.1 million, partially funded by the Quebec government.
- Entrepreneurs have signed on for four years at Parc Jean-Drapeau, near the site of Expo 67 and the city's Formula One racetrack on a small island accessible by metro from Montreal.
- While winter weather is a key marketing tool for getting people out to see the Snow Village, it's not integral to creating it. Belanger says workers are using low-pressure cannons to produce snow at night, when temperatures drop.



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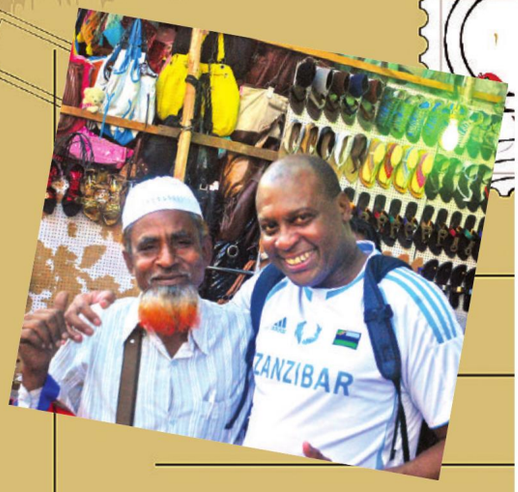
Postcards from the planet

HEATHER GREENWOOD DAVIS
GLOBETROTTINGMAMA.COM

MUMBAI, INDIA JAN. 21, 2012

The Bandra neighbourhood is a cacophony of sound. Everything from shoes to purses to dresses to angry bird underwear is here and it can all be yours if you're willing to part with your Rupees. The touts shout out their offers as we walk past and my husband shouts back. Above the tooting horns of the old Fiat taxis I hear him booming "hello," asking for names and telling them about the trip. Soon they forget what they were selling and start giving him high fives and fist pumps. And, almost always, it ends with a photo where everyone is smiling.



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Manhattan at Times Square + taxes & fees $115
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TICO

Gliding through a winter wonderland

Yellowstone National Park isn't just a summer destination ▶ See it from a pair of cross-country skis

▶ Winter is a perfect time to get immersed in Yellowstone National Park.

Yellowstone National Park's wilderness is reclaimed when the throngs of summer tourists leave and the temperature drops below zero. Most of the park's roads and services shut down, and the landscape is transformed into an otherworldly land of ice and snow.

Relatively few people venture into the park at this time, just 17,262 overnight visitors last winter compared to the nearly 1.2 million overnight stays between June and September 2010.

The wildlife re-emerges with the people gone, and wolves, foxes, swans, geese, eagles, bison and elk are more frequently seen at this time of year.

It's also a prime time for cross-country skiing. Yellowstone in winter has plenty of trails for novices and experts alike. No matter the skill level, a ski trip in Yellowstone leaves you with a sense of the park's beauty that is completely different from the busy summer months.

For $40, you can get a two-hour lesson and get outfitted with skis, boots and poles for 24 hours.

At the Old Faithful Snow Lodge and the Mammoth Hot Springs Hotel near the northern entrance, plot out your ski route.

These are the only accommodations inside the park during the winter season from mid-December until the first weekend of March.

There's usually plenty of space throughout the season, with Old Faithful normally running at about 70 per cent of capacity and Mammoth about 60 per cent full. The exception is Christmas, when the lodges are usually full.

Once you get to Old Faithful in winter, you're pretty much stuck there unless you pony up another $62 to take the three-hour snowcoach back to West Yellowstone. The rooms at Old Faithful are $206 a night, there's no television and reservations are a must at the one restaurant.

But the adventure begins just outside the door with the iconic geyser as the main attraction. Most wintertime visitors choose to tour the park by snowcoach or snowmobile. But there's really no better way to become immersed in the park than with a pair of skis. There are the easy outings, such as the trails around the Upper Geyser Basin just outside of the lodge.

Then there are the tougher ones, including arduous trails to the Continental Divide.

For those who don't want to waste any more time than necessary, and have an extra $16.50, a shuttle is available to take skiers to more distant trailheads.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

- Yellowstone National Park's winter season begins in mid-December and lasts until the beginning of March; nps.gov/yell . Winter package deals from concessionaire Xanterra: yellowstonenationalparklodges.com.

For sweet & savoury taste buds

This sandwich boasts the picante flavour of curry, which works well with chicken Adding a dash of orange juice helps to fight colds

Looking for a new idea for your lunch that will help to keep that winter cold away?

This tasty chicken sandwich sings of orange flavour with a hint of curry, which makes for a perfect twist to a sandwich classic, with added health benefits.

Preparation:

1. In skillet heat oil over medium-high heat and cook onion and garlic for 3 minutes or until starting to soften. Add chicken, curry powder, coriander and turmeric; cook, stirring for 2 minutes. Whisk cornstarch into orange juice and add to skillet; bring to boil. Reduce heat and simmer for about 5 minutes or until chicken is no longer pink inside.
2. Remove from heat and stir in yogurt, coriander, chutney, salt and pepper.
3. Spread mixture over 1 naan bread and top with spinach. Top with other naan and cut in quarters to serve. **NEWS CANADA/ ADAPTED BY EMILY RICHARDS (PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)**

NEWS CANADA

This recipe serves four.

Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp (15 mL) canola oil
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) diced red onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 12 oz (375 g) boneless skinless chicken breasts, diced (about 2 breasts)
- 2 tsp (10 mL) curry powder
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) each ground coriander/turmeric
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) cornstarch
- 3/4 cup (175 mL) Florida orange juice
- 1/4 cup (50 mL) 0 % plain Greek yogurt
- 3 tbsp (45 mL) chopped fresh coriander
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) mango chutney
- Pinch each salt and pepper
- 2 large naan breads
- 1 cup (250 mL) baby spinach

Drink of the week

Triple Shots of Flavour

Looking for a way to serve up a fun non-alcoholic drink? Try these shooters.

- Fresh cucumber
- Watermelon
- Ginger
- Sparkling water

On tray, place 3 shot glasses (2 oz each). Using small melon baller make 3 balls of cucumber, 3 balls of watermelon, 3 balls of ginger. Place fruit balls in glasses, then pour cold sparkling water over fruit. Allow to infuse 1 min. Bubbles will extract the fresh fruit flavours. **SOCIETEPERRIER.COM**

Cardamom-Honey Chicken Thighs combines a mix of flavours Add new potatoes to make it a meal

MATTHEW MEAD/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This recipe serves four.

Substitute any root vegetables you like for the potatoes in this recipe. Sweet potatoes, carrots and parsnips are fine choices. You also could skip the vegetables entirely and serve the chicken over egg noodles tossed with the pan sauce.

Preparation:

1. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F). In a small bowl, whisk together honey, orange zest, 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the oil, 5 ml (1 tsp) salt, garlic powder, cardamom and pepper. Set aside.
2. In a 23-cm (9-inch) square metal roasting or baking pan, toss potatoes with remaining 15 ml (1 tbsp) oil and 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt. Arrange potatoes in an even layer.
3. Use a pastry brush to coat chicken thighs with honey mixture under and over skin. Arrange chicken pieces over potatoes.
4. Cover with foil and roast for 35 minutes. Uncover and roast for another 15 minutes. Transfer meat and potatoes to a plate, cover with foil and set aside.
5. Set roasting pan over a stovetop burner on medium-high heat. Bring liquid in the pan to a simmer and cook until thickened, about 2 minutes.
6. Serve chicken and potatoes drizzled with pan sauce. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ J.M. HIRSCH**

Ingredients:

- 75 ml (1/3 cup) honey
- Zest of 1 orange
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive or canola oil, divided
- Kosher salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) garlic powder
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) ground cardamom
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) ground black pepper
- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) new potatoes
- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) skin-on, bone-in chicken thighs

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Cooking up confidence

At-risk Canadian youth are gleaning food literacy — and self-esteem — by way of group cooking classes

One 17-year-old boy measures flour and mashes bananas for chocolate chip banana muffins while another, also 17, uses a kitchen knife to de-seed and finely slice a red pepper for ham and cheese roll-ups.

A third boy, 15, has to work to spread cold cream cheese on the roll-up tortillas before adding ham slices, lettuce and the pepper strips.

Although there is chatter all around them, the boys don't say much, intent on their tasks during the first of four life-skills cooking classes at Belton House, a London residential group home for boys 12 to 18. A couple of other boys wander in and out, just to keep an eye on what's happening.

When the boy who sliced the peppers takes on the job of rolling and securing the finished wraps, the instructor watching comments that he did a far better job than she could. She's not just blowing smoke. He looks pleased.

Although only three of the home's seven residents participated and despite the slightly burned muffins (not the fault of the boy who made them), Heather Thomas proclaims the hour-long class a success.

Thomas is a public health dietitian at the Middlesex-London Health Unit and the organizer of the event. This is her first cooking class at a group home — another was planned at a group home for girls later in the week — and it is the latest step in her effort to bring "food literacy" to at-risk youth in the London area.

"We didn't know if even one kid would show up" for the strictly voluntary class, Thomas says. "So to have three, that's good."

Jade Vincentini-Daley, residential supervisor at Belton House, says she's quite certain the next three classes "will go even better because more boys will take a risk and decide to participate."

Those who took part this time seem to confirm that. Two say they will "definitely" attend the next class.

"It was pretty fun," says the teen who made the muffins, something he has not done before.

The hope, says Vincentini-Daley, is "that this will help prepare them for independence so that they have a better handle on how to prepare healthy meals and do it on a budget and have more confidence in cooking."

Thomas' work in food literacy grew out of her PhD thesis, successfully completed in December. Since last spring she has been leading a monthly class with teens under the care of the Children's Aid Society. These kids are mostly 16 and 17, a mix of boys and girls. They have two-hour sessions at a rented church kitchen and typically make a main dish, a salad and a dessert.

"Usually they work in pairs and I just give them the recipe and the ingredients and let them have at it," Thomas says.

"I give them some direction, but I don't do any of the cooking myself. It's just a really low-key, fun cooking session. And then after we're finished, we sit down and we eat family-style.

"Actually, that's my favourite part because we talk about what they liked about it, what they want to make next time and what's going on.

"It's an opportunity for them to have sort of a normal experience around food that they might not be getting because they don't live at home."

There's some discussion about healthy eating on a budget — making things from scratch instead of using expensive convenience foods — but it's not in the form of a lecture. And each participant gets a copy of the recipes made that evening so they'll have some familiar dishes to make when they're living on their own.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Allowing participants to take the lead and feel a sense of control is important in the group cooking process, says Heather Thomas, who organizes the Belton House event.

DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Bon appetit!

"[The hope is] that this will prepare them for independence so that they have a better handle on how to prepare healthy meals and do it on a budget..."

JADE VINCENTINI-DALEY
RESIDENTIAL SUPERVISOR AT BELTON HOUSE

Spread the skills

Hungry happenings:

- A group of about 10 health units across Ontario has just learned it is getting a grant of $100,000 from Public Health Ontario to investigate what food literacy and cooking skills mean to "priority populations."
- Each health unit will first define those populations specific to its area and then use interviews to determine what type of "food skills programming" would work best with those groups.

Put away before you plug away

You've got a stack of work to handle but your office is in shambles ▶ Take in these tips on tidying up

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For the 50 per cent of working Canadians who work from home or maintain a home office, organization is especially important.

Being productive is a direct result of being organized, but the thought of where to start and how to go about it may be overwhelming. The good news is, a few simple steps can make a major difference.

Clear the clutter

Being organized starts with cutting out the clutter. Too often our offices are crammed with machines, supplies and pieces of paper, making our workstations seem completely dysfunctional.

When it comes to paperwork, limit the documents you keep in hard copy. Scan your documents and store them on your computer's hard drive.

Shredding the hard copies will make an immediate difference in the amount of space you have.

Label and file

Once you decide what documents you need to keep in hard copy, make sure they have a designated place. To achieve this, an effective labelling system is a no-brainer.

Colour code and label your files so everything is clearly identified and easily accessible. Assign a colour category to your files, such as green for financial documents and blue for personal papers. Organization also extends to how you manage your contacts.

If you tend to do a lot of mailings, investing in a label printer with software that allows you to save your contacts is the way to go. There are some great electronic labellers on the market that can be purchased in most office supply stores or online on websites like brother.ca.

Establish office routines and stick to them

To avoid falling into the "disorganization rut" once again, you need to implement a daily or weekly routine. Take a few minutes each day to sort through every piece of paper that comes into your office. As tedious as this may be, this system will help you stay organized and keep things running smoothly.

NEWS CANADA

ISTOCK

▶ A scattered desk means a scattered brain.

Clear your head

Learn to love lists

- An organized mind is a productive mind. At the end of the day, make a to-do list for the next day and set it out on your desk so it's ready when you come in.
- Not only will this help you be more efficient, it will help de-clutter your mind so when you leave the office you can focus on things other than work.

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GEORGE BROWN COLLEGE School of Continuing Education

Why I chose to attend Hard Work U

Prioritizing pages over partying ain't easy ▶ But skipping the occasional shindig feels worth it to this student

STUDENT VOICE

CEILIDH MILLAR
TALENTEGG.CA

As a first-year media communications student, here's the scoop.

The holidays are over and I'm back at school. During the break, I had a chance to catch up with friends who were home from university. By all accounts, they're having the time of their lives. They regaled me with stories about cool parties, wild weekend trips and antics of living in residence.

OK, am I missing something here? My post-secondary experience has been the exact opposite. Long days of classes, evenings and weekends filled with assignments and studying… pure slog!

Forget about those wild dorm parties. In my dorm there's complete silence by 9 p.m. — everyone is in their room studying or passed out from exhaustion!

I found my first end-of-semester experience overwhelming! Eight finals in four days...brutal! I spent my evenings at the campus broadcast centre cramming for exams and editing film until three in the morning. Ah, beautiful sleep… is now my idea of fun!

▶ Ceilidh Millar and CTV host Lloyd Robertson.

Was I at No Fun Tech? Had I chosen the wrong school?

Over the break, I had time to reflect on why I selected this college in the first place. I chose BCIT because it has a great media communications program.

I wanted a program that focused on practical training in addition to the academics. The program covers both aspects and students can be secure in the knowledge they'll be well prepared to enter the job force. BCIT has one of the best track records of producing top graduates who are sought after by employers.

Although it may be entertaining to be at Fun Time U, I know the true purpose of college. I believe in post-secondary education that gets you results — a job!

BCIT has accelerated programs. Students are basically doing four years in two. My university friends take only four courses a semester, I'm taking eight, resulting in 16 courses a term plus a practicum. Yeah, no wonder I'm tired!

I reminded myself, I'll have two years experience working in the industry by the time my university friends even graduate.

Yes, I definitely made the right decision.

Nobody said it was going to be easy. You know the saying, "What doesn't kill you, makes you stronger." Well, by the time I graduate, I should be Hercules!

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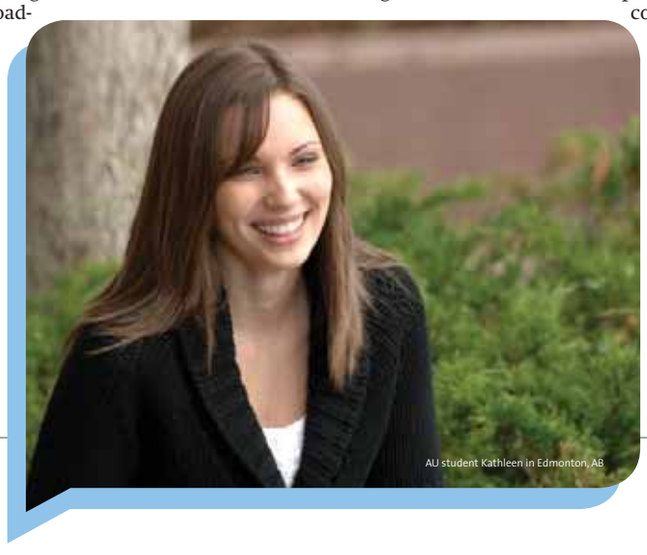
"Although it may be entertaining to be at Fun Time U, I know the true purpose of college. I believe in post-secondary education that gets you results — the job!"
CEILIDH MILLAR


AU student Kathleen in Edmonton, AB

Where Ceilidh is now

I'm a first-year Media Communications student in the Broadcast & Online Journalism program at BCIT. An avid volunteer, I am an ambassador for Free The Children. I was appointed their youth reporter at the 2011 Vancouver We Day and co-hosted City TV's coverage of the day-long event. I am also a freelance writer for Vervegirl Magazine and specialize in articles on cause and volunteering.

Lessons learned

Key take-aways from Ceilidh's experience:

- Choose programs and courses that offer hands-on experience to get ahead of your peers
- Pursue volunteer opportunities in your field to network and gain valuable skills

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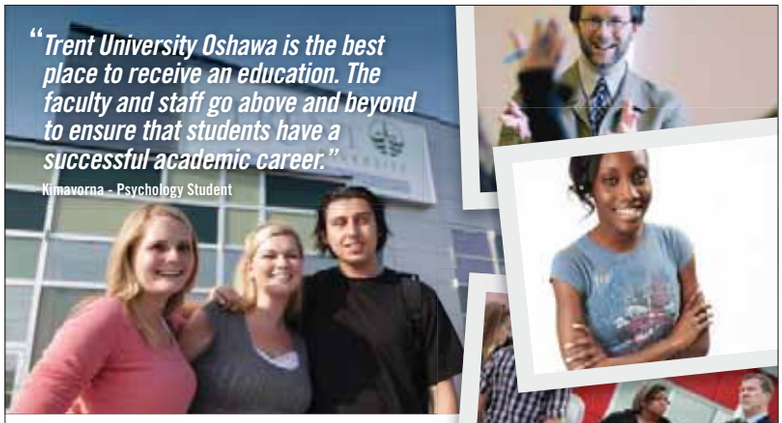

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Getting kids to care

Dr. Oz finds way of talking well-being with youngsters

MEREDITH ENGEL
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METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

When he's not operating on patients, hosting a talk show or authoring books, Dr. Mehmet Oz devotes his time to his charity, HealthCorps, a Peace Corps-like program that sends college grads into high schools to mentor students on health and well-being.

Why is peer-to-peer mentoring the right approach to take to teach kids about their health?

Well, part of it is because I have kids. I was asked by their school to give a talk to them once about 10 years ago, and they seemed sort of bored but I gave the talk anyway. The next day, as I got to the hospital, I had probably a dozen phone calls from corporate executives, lawyers [and] other doctors saying their kids had come home that night and had told them things like "If you have a piece of bread, it's like having a candy bar." And it began a process in my mind: If we can get these kids to talk with each other in a way that makes it cool to push back against your parents, they'll do it.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Dr. Mehmet Oz

I'm not the one to deliver that message, but I can get college kids to do it.

What are your goals for the program, and what are you doing to reach them?

I want to have HealthCorps schools in every major city in America, and I want to have them in every state. We may not be in every school, and I think one of the things we're learning is that we can develop [the] best practices from the many schools we're in that other schools can adopt and begin to use in their own programs. We're gonna call it HealthCorps University. So either you'll have one of my volunteers in your school who will teach your kids about health, and [for] anybody else, health teachers can take the syllabus and use it on their own.

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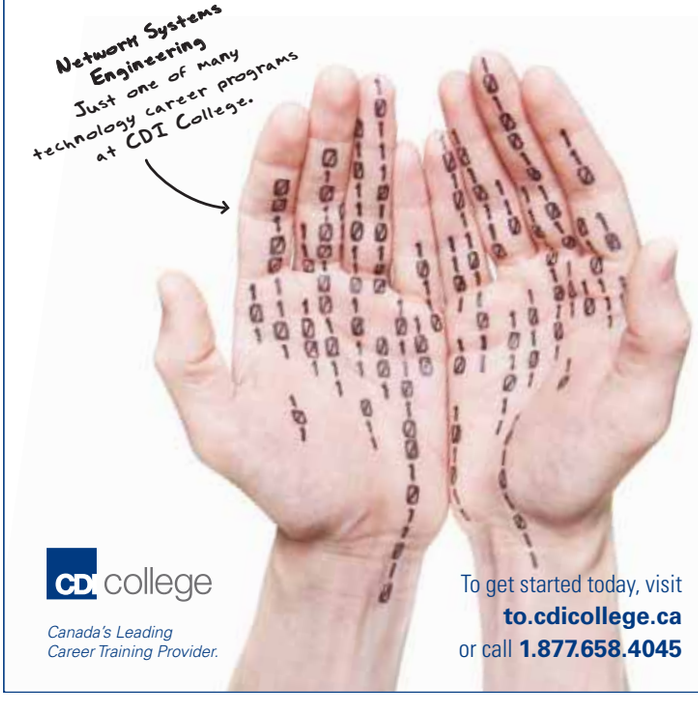

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4 sports

Leafs. Victory

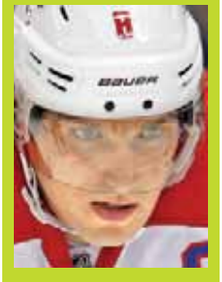
▶ Islanders forward John Tavares and Leafs blueliner Dion Phaneuf battle for the puck on Tuesday.

JIM MCISAAC/GETTY IMAGES

Leafs complete sweep of Islanders

Clarke MacArthur's second goal of the game at 2:06 of overtime lifted Toronto over the New York Islanders, 4-3, on Tuesday night, giving the Maple Leafs a sweep of the home-and-home series. MacArthur took a feed from Mikhail Grabovski and slid the puck into goalie Al Montoya's glove, which was inside the net. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted



"I'm there. I got suspended so why do I have to go there?"

WASHINGTON CAPITALS FORWARD ALEX OVECHKIN, WHO HAS DECIDED HE WON'T PARTICIPATE IN THIS WEEKEND'S ALL-STAR GAME BECAUSE OF A THREE-GAME SUSPENSION HANDED TO HIM BY THE NHL EARLIER THIS WEEK.

Fat paycheque for Prince

Fielder and Tigers agree to nine-year contract worth $214 million US, source says

Free agent first baseman Prince Fielder and the Detroit Tigers agreed Tuesday on a nine-year, $214 million US contract that fills the AL Central champions' need for a power hitter, a person familiar with the deal said.

CBS first reported the agreement.

The source told The Associated Press that the deal was subject to a physical. The source spoke on condition of anonymity because the contract was not yet complete.

Detroit boldly stepped up in the Fielder sweepstakes after the recent knee injury to star Victor Martinez. A week ago, the Tigers announced that the productive designated hitter could miss the entire season after tearing his left ACL during off-season conditioning.

The Tigers won their division by 15 games before losing in the AL championship series to Texas.

Adding the 27-year-old Fielder gives the Tigers two of the game's premier sluggers, pairing him with Miguel Cabrera.

With Cabrera and Fielder, Detroit will begin this season with two players under age 30 with at least 200 career homers. According to STATS LLC, that's happened only once before. At the start of the 1961 season, the Milwaukee Braves featured 29-year-old Eddie Matthews (338 homers) and 27-year-old Hank Aaron (219).

Fielder has averaged 40 homers and 113 RBIs over the past five years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Paid in full

Among current players, Fielder's new yearly average pay would be the fifth highest in the major leagues.

Alex Rodriguez, Yankees $27.5 million,

Ryan Howard, Phillies $25 million

Cliff Lee, Phillies $24 million

Albert Pujols, Angels $24 million

Prince Fielder, Tigers $23.78 million

Australian Open in pictures

PHOTOS
1. VIVEK PRAKASH- POOL/GETTY IMAGES
2. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES
3. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES

1 Roger Federer advanced to his ninth straight semifinal at Melbourne Park with a 6-4, 6-3, 6-2 quarterfinal win Tuesday over Juan Martin del Potro.

2 Rafael Nadal advanced with a tough 6-7 (5), 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-3 win over Tomas Berdych, setting up a rare semifinal matchup against Federer. Federer and Nadal have been on opposite halves of the draw since the 2005 French Open.

3 Defending women's champion Kim Clijsters, still dealing with a left ankle injury, advanced to an Australian Open semifinal against third-seeded Victoria Azarenka by beating No. 1 Caroline Wozniacki 6-3, 7-6 (4) Tuesday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Morrow, Jays agree to three-year deal

Pitcher gets $20 million US, avoids arbitration

RENE JOHNSTON/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Brandon Morrow conducts a phone interview on Tuesday.

Brandon Morrow and the Toronto Blue Jays didn't need to rely on a third party to come to terms after all.

Morrow has signed a three-year, $20-million US deal with the Blue Jays to avoid an arbitration hearing. Toronto also has a $10-million club option for the 2015 season.

Morrow had asked for $4.2 million in arbitration after posting an 11-11 record last season with a 4.72 ERA and 203 strikeouts over 179⅓ innings. Toronto countered with an offer of $3.9 million to the six-foot-three, 196-pound right-hander.

Prior to exchanging salary figures, Toronto general manager Alex Anthopoulos left the door open to a potential long-term deal with Morrow but said the club was also fine with meeting with an arbitrator to finalize contract details.

At a hastily called news conference Tuesday, Morrow said he had no fear about the prospect of going to an arbitration hearing and was actually looking forward to the process.

"To be honest, I'm interested in things like that," he told reporters at Rogers Centre. "I think the whole process and mini-court situation is actually interesting to me and a little intriguing.

"But I was much happier to be able to work on the multi-year (deal) with Alex." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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- Chicago gets $2.64 per customer from local, state and federal governments
- More help from provincial and federal governments will allow the TTC to meet Toronto's growing transit needs

KnowYourTTC.ca

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-NY Rangers	47	31	12	1	3	132	96	66	15-5-0-2	16-7-1-1	7-3-0-0	W2
d-Boston	47	31	14	1	1	171	101	64	16-7-1-1	15-7-0-0	5-4-1-0	L1
d-Washington	48	26	19	1	2	136	137	55	18-6-0-1	8-13-1-1	5-4-1-0	W1
Philadelphia	48	29	14	2	3	162	142	63	11-7-1-2	18-7-1-1	6-3-0-1	W1
Ottawa	51	27	18	4	2	155	157	60	14-9-0-1	13-9-4-1	6-3-1-0	L2
Pittsburgh	48	27	17	2	2	149	125	58	14-8-2-0	13-9-0-2	6-4-0-0	W6
New Jersey	48	26	19	1	2	129	136	55	12-9-0-2	14-10-1-0	4-4-1-1	L3
Florida	48	22	15	5	6	122	136	55	11-5-1-6	11-10-4-0	3-2-3-2	L1
Toronto	49	25	19	3	2	151	147	55	14-8-2-2	11-11-1-0	6-4-0-0	W2
Winnipeg	50	22	22	3	3	124	143	50	15-8-0-2	7-14-3-1	3-6-0-1	L3
Tampa Bay	48	21	23	1	3	136	165	46	13-7-0-1	8-16-1-2	4-5-0-1	W4
NY Islanders	48	19	22	5	2	115	143	45	11-11-4-0	8-11-1-2	5-4-1-0	L2
Montreal	48	18	21	2	7	123	132	45	8-10-2-4	10-12-0-2	5-3-0-2	W1
Buffalo	49	20	24	3	2	119	149	45	11-9-3-2	9-15-0-0	2-7-1-0	W1
Carolina	51	18	24	5	4	130	159	45	13-11-0-3	5-13-5-1	5-3-1-1	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Detroit	49	33	15	1	0	158	110	67	20-2-1-0	13-13-0-0	9-1-0-0	W7
d-Vancouver	48	29	15	0	4	155	120	62	13-6-0-3	16-9-0-1	5-3-0-2	W1
d-San Jose	46	26	14	3	3	130	110	58	15-8-2-0	11-6-1-3	4-3-1-2	L3
St. Louis	48	29	13	1	5	122	99	64	21-3-1-2	8-10-0-3	8-1-1-0	L1
Chicago	49	29	14	3	3	161	141	64	19-5-1-3	10-9-2-0	5-3-2-0	L1
Nashville	49	29	16	3	1	137	126	62	16-7-2-1	13-9-1-0	8-2-0-0	W3
Los Angeles	50	24	16	4	6	111	111	58	14-11-0-4	10-5-4-2	5-2-1-2	W1
Colorado	50	26	22	2	0	129	141	54	14-11-0-0	12-11-2-0	5-4-1-0	L1
Minnesota	48	23	18	2	5	112	124	53	13-6-1-2	10-12-1-3	3-6-0-1	W1
Calgary	49	23	20	3	3	120	136	52	13-6-1-1	10-14-2-2	5-3-1-1	W2
Dallas	47	24	21	0	2	125	136	50	13-9-0-2	11-12-0-0	3-6-0-1	L5
Phoenix	49	21	20	3	5	127	132	50	9-9-2-2	12-11-1-3	2-5-1-2	L3
Anaheim	47	18	22	3	4	124	143	43	13-12-1-0	5-10-2-4	8-1-1-0	W5
Edmonton	48	18	26	1	3	120	139	40	12-8-1-2	6-18-0-1	2-7-1-0	W1
Columbus	49	13	30	1	5	115	163	32	8-13-1-2	5-17-0-3	3-6-0-1	L4

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Toronto 4 N.Y. Islanders 3 (OT)
N.Y. Rangers 3 Winnipeg 0
Buffalo 2 New Jersey 1 (SO)
Philadelphia 3 Florida 2 (SO)
Tampa Bay 4 Columbus 2
Washington 5 Boston 3
Pittsburgh at St. Louis
Nashville at Chicago
Anaheim at Dallas
Minnesota at Colorado
San Jose at Calgary
Ottawa at Phoenix
Edmonton at Vancouver
Monday's results
Edmonton 2 San Jose 1 (SO)
Toronto 3 N.Y. Islanders 0
Carolina 2 Winnipeg 1
Detroit 3 St. Louis 1
Nashville 4 Columbus 1
Ottawa at Los Angeles
Tonight's game
All Times Eastern
Detroit at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.
NHL ALL-STAR BREAK
Jan. 26-30 at Ottawa

LEAFS 4, ISLANDERS 3 (OT)

First Period
1. N.Y. Islanders, Tavares 20 (Okposo, Reese) 1:54
Penalty — Martin NYI (interference) 2:16.
Second Period
2. N.Y. Islanders, Bailey 5 (Martin) 9:17 (sh)
3. Toronto, MacArthur 13 (Grabovski, Kulemin) 18:55
Penalties — Kessel Tor (roughing), Hamonic NYI (roughing, holding) 8:54.
Third Period
4. Toronto, Gardiner 1 (Grabovski, MacArthur) 1:47
5. Toronto, Grabovski 16 (Kulemin, Gardiner) 16:29
6. N.Y. Islanders, Parenteau 10, 19:47
Penalties — None.
Overtime
7. Toronto, MacArthur 14 (Grabovski) 2:06
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal by

Toronto	4	10	5	2—21
N.Y. Islanders	8	10	12	2—32

Goal — Toronto: Gustavsson (W,16-10-0); N.Y. Islanders: Montoya (L,6-5-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Toronto: 0-2; N.Y. Islanders: 0-0.
Referees — Mike Hasenfratz, Brian Pochmara.
Linesmen — Brian Murphy, Darren Gibbs.
Att. — 10,888 (16,234) at Uniondale, N.Y.

RANGERS 3, JETS 0

First Period
1. N.Y. Rangers, Callahan 17 (Stralman, Boyle) 4:05
Penalties — Thorburn Wpg, Rupp NYR (fighting) 6:14.
Second Period
2. N.Y. Rangers, Mitchell 5 (Del Zotto, Stepan) 13:22
Penalties — Slater Wpg (interference) 0:36, Thorburn Wpg, Rupp NYR (fighting) 5:33, Fehr Wpg (holding) 10:53, Girardi NYR (boarding) 16:43.
Third Period
3. N.Y. Rangers, Richards 16 (Callahan) 16:22
Penalties — Fehr Wpg (high-sticking) 3:49, Wheeler Wpg (high-sticking) 6:29, Gaborik NYR (interference) 17:05.
Shots

Winnipeg	6	6	10	22
N.Y. Rangers	11	8	12	31

Goal — Winnipeg: Pavelec (L,16-17-6); N.Y. Rangers: Lundqvist (W,22-10-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Winnipeg: 0-2; N.Y. Rangers: 0-4.
Referees — Eric Furlatt, Rob Martell. **Linesmen** — Scott Cherrey, Anthony Sericolo.
Att. — 18,200 (18,200) at New York.

CAPITALS 5, BRUINS 3

First Period
1. Boston, Peverley 8 (Bergeron, Seidenberg) 17:46
Penalties — None.
Second Period
2. Washington, Eakin 4 (Ward, Beagle) 2:14
3. Washington, Perreault 5 (Semin, Hamrlik) 2:55
4. Boston, Seguin 19 (Kampfer) 12:21
5. Washington, Perreault 6, 14:23
6. Boston, Marchand 17 (Seidenberg, Bergeron) 17:42 (pp)
Penalties — Chara Bos, McQuaid Bos, Chimera Wash (roughing) 6:38, Perreault Wash (hooking) 16:51.
Third Period
7. Washington, Perreault 7 (Hamrlik, Johansson) 7:18
8. Washington, Wideman 9 (Brouwer, Halpern) 19:33 (en)
Penalty — Perreault Wash (high-sticking) 4:15.
Shots

Boston	12	12	8	32
Washington	10	8	5	23

Goal — Boston: Rask (L,11-5-2); Washington: Vokoun (W,20-12-0). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Boston: 1-2; Washington: 0-1.
Referees — Chris Lee, Don Van Massenhoven.
Linesmen — Steve Miller, Greg Devorski.
Att. — 18,506 (18,398) at Washington.

SABRES 2, DEVILS 1 (SO)

First Period
1. Buffalo, Leopold 8 (Gerbe, Ellis) 16:34
Penalty — Ponikarovsky NJ (tripping) 1:47.
Second Period
2. New Jersey, Elias 18 (Parise, Foster) 10:22 (pp)
Penalties — Roy Buf (tripping) 6:37, Roy Buf (boarding) 9:07.
Third Period
No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Overtime
No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout
Buffalo wins 2-1
Buffalo (2) — Vanek, miss; Boyes, miss; Pominville, goal; Gerbe, goal. **New Jersey (1)** — Kovalchuk, goal; Parise, miss; Elias, miss; Henrique, miss.
Shots

Buffalo	6	3	4	1—14
New Jersey	6	12	6	4—28

Goal — Buffalo: Miller (W,12-15-2); New Jersey: Brodeur (L,14-12-2). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Buffalo: 0-1; New Jersey: 1-2.
Referees — Greg Kimmerly, Wes McCauley.
Linesmen — Derek Nansen, Brian Mach.
Att. — 13,735 (17,625) at Newark, N.J.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Malkin, Pgh	26	32	58
Giroux, Pha	18	37	55
Datsyuk, Det	14	39	53
Stamkos, TB	32	20	52
Ma.Hossa, Chi	20	32	52
Lupul, Tor	20	32	52
H.Sedin, Vcr	11	41	52
Kessel, Tor	26	25	51
Toews, Chi	27	23	50
D.Sedin, Vcr	20	30	50
Spezza, Ott	20	30	50

Not including last night's games

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Melbourne, Australia
MEN
Singles
Quarter-finals
Rafael Nadal (2), Spain, def. Tomas Berdych (7), Czech Republic, 6-7 (5), 7-6 (6), 6-4, 6-3.
Roger Federer (3), Switzerland, def. Juan Martin del Potro (11), Argentina, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2.
Doubles
Quarter-finals
Bob and Mike Bryan (1), U.S., def. Mariusz Fyrstenberg and Marcin Matkowski (6), Poland, 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-4.
Robert Lindstedt, Sweden, and Horia Tecau (7), Romania, def. Scott Lipsky and Rajeev Ram (13), U.S., 6-4, 6-4.
WOMEN
Singles
Quarter-finals
Kim Clijsters (11), Belgium, def. Caroline Wozniacki (1), Denmark, 6-3, 7-6 (4).
Victoria Azarenka (3), Belarus, def. Agnieszka Radwanska (8), Poland, 6-7 (0), 6-0, 6-2.
Doubles
Quarter-finals
Sania Mirza, India, and Elena Vesnina (6), Russia, def. Liezel Huber and Lisa Raymond (2), U.S., 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 (6).
Andrea Hlavackova and Lucie Hradecka (7), Czech Republic, def. Vania King, U.S., and Yaroslava Shvedova (3), Kazakhstan, 7-5, 6-2.
Sara Errani and Roberta Vinci (11), Italy, def. Alla Kudryavtseva and Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, 6-3, 6-1.
Svetlana Kuznetsova and Vera Zvonareva, Russia, def. Irina-Camelia Begu and Monica Niculescu, Romania, 7-5, 6-3.
MIXED DOUBLES
Second Round
Bethanie Mattek-Sands, U.S., and Horia Tecau (8), Romania, def. Yaroslava Shvedova, Kazakhstan, and Andy Ram, Israel, 6-4, 7-6 (2).
Roberta Vinci and Daniele Bracciali, Italy, def. Kimiko Date-Krumm and Kei Nishikori, Japan, 6-3, 7-6 (6).
JUNIORS
BOYS
Singles
Second Round
Filip Peliwo, Vancouver, def. Jack Schipanski, Australia, 6-2, 6-4.
Doubles
Second Round
Pedja Krstin, Serbia, and **Filip Peliwo (7), Vancouver**, def. Borna Coric, Croatia, and Pietro Licciardi, Italy, 2-6, 6-2, 10-6 (tiebreak).
GIRLS
Singles
Second Round
Eugenie Bouchard (2), Westmount, Que., def. Iva Mekovec, Croatia, 6-3, 3-6, 6-3.
Doubles
Second Round
Eugenie Bouchard, Westmount, Que., and Carol Zhao, Richmond Hill, Ont. (8), def. Miyu Kato and Risa Ozaki, Japan, 6-2, 6-4.

EARLY TODAY

MEN
Doubles
Quarter-finals
Max Mirnyi, Belarus, and **Daniel Nestor (2), Toronto**, def. Santiago Gonzalez, Mexico, and Christopher Kas, Germany, 6-1, 6-7 (4-7), 6-2.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Chicago	16	3	.842	—
d-Atlanta	13	5	.722	2½
d-Philadelphia	12	5	.706	3
Orlando	12	5	.706	3
Miami	12	5	.706	3
Indiana	11	5	.688	3½
Boston	7	9	.438	7½
New York	7	10	.412	8
Milwaukee	6	10	.375	8½
Cleveland	6	10	.375	8½
New Jersey	5	13	.278	10½
Toronto	4	13	.235	11
Detroit	4	14	.222	11½
Charlotte	3	15	.167	12½
Washington	2	15	.118	13

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Oklahoma City	14	3	.824	—
Denver	12	5	.706	2
Utah	10	5	.667	3
d-L.A. Clippers	9	5	.643	3½
d-Memphis	10	6	.625	3½
San Antonio	11	7	.611	3½
Dallas	11	7	.611	3½
Houston	10	7	.588	4
Portland	10	7	.588	4
L.A. Lakers	10	8	.556	4½
Minnesota	7	10	.412	7
Phoenix	6	10	.375	7½
Sacramento	6	12	.333	8½
Golden State	5	11	.313	8½
New Orleans	3	14	.176	11

d-division leaders ranked in top four positions.

Last night's results
New York 111 Charlotte 78
Orlando 102 Indiana 83
Miami 92 Cleveland 85
Toronto at Phoenix
Memphis at Portland
Monday's results
Philadelphia 103 Washington 83
Boston 87 Orlando 56
Chicago 110 New Jersey 95
Oklahoma City 99 Detroit 79
San Antonio 104 New Orleans 102
Houston 107 Minnesota 92
Atlanta 97 Milwaukee 92
Dallas 93 Phoenix 87
Portland 101 Sacramento 89
Memphis 91 Golden State 90
Tonight's gmnes
All Times Eastern
New York at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Charlotte at Washington, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Miami at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Indiana at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at Houston, 8 p.m.
New Orleans at Oklahoma City, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Atlanta at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at Utah, 9 p.m.
Denver at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
Boston at Orlando, 8 p.m.
Memphis at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

BASKETBALL

AP MEN'S TOP 25

All Times Eastern
Last night's results
No. 1 Kentucky at Georgia
No. 6 Baylor at Oklahoma
No. 13 San Diego State at Wyoming
No. 17 Marquette vs. South Florida
No. 20 Michigan at Purdue
Monday's results
No. 3 Syracuse 60 Cincinnati 53
No. 5 Kansas 64 Texas A&M 54
Tonight's games
No. 2 Missouri at Oklahoma State, 7:30 p.m.
No. 4 Ohio State vs. Penn State, 6:30 p.m.
No. 8 Duke at Maryland, 9 p.m.
No. 10 Michigan State vs. Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.
No. 12 Nevada-Las Vegas at Boise State, 10 p.m.
No. 15 Creighton at Drake, 8:05 p.m.
No. 18 Mississippi State vs. LSU, 8 p.m.
No. 22 Kansas State at Texas Tech, 9 p.m.
No. 23 Florida State at Wake Forest, 7 p.m.
Tomorrow's games
No. 7 North Carolina vs. NC State, 7 p.m.
No. 14 Florida at Mississippi, 7 p.m.
No. 16 Indiana at No. 25 Wisconsin, 9 p.m.
No. 19 Virginia vs. Boston College, 9 p.m.
No. 21 Saint Mary's (Cal) at Loyola Marymount, 10 p.m.
Saturday's games
No. 1 Kentucky at Louisiana State, 4 p.m.
No. 2 Missouri vs. Texas Tech, 1:30 p.m.
No. 3 Syracuse vs. West Virginia, 1 p.m.
No. 5 Kansas at Iowa State, 2 p.m.
No. 6 Baylor vs. Texas, 1 p.m.
No. 8 Duke vs. St. John's, Noon
No. 9 Georgetown at Pittsburgh, 4 p.m.
No. 11 Murray State vs. Eastern Illinois, 8 p.m.
No. 12 Nevada-Las Vegas at Air Force, 9 p.m.
No. 13 San Diego State at Colorado State, 4 p.m.
No. 14 Florida vs. **No. 18** Mississippi State, 1:30 p.m.
No. 15 Creighton vs. Bradley, 8:05 p.m.
No. 17 Marquette at Villanova, Noon
No. 19 Virginia at NC State, 8 p.m.
No. 21 Saint Mary's (Cal) at Brigham Young, 9 p.m.
No. 22 Kansas State vs. Oklahoma, 7 p.m.

NFL PLAYOFFS

PRO BOWL

Sunday, Jan. 29
At Honolulu
All Times Eastern
NFC vs. AFC, 7 p.m.

SUPER BOWL

Sunday, Feb. 5
At Indianapolis
New England vs. N.Y. Giants, 6:20 p.m.

LACROSSE

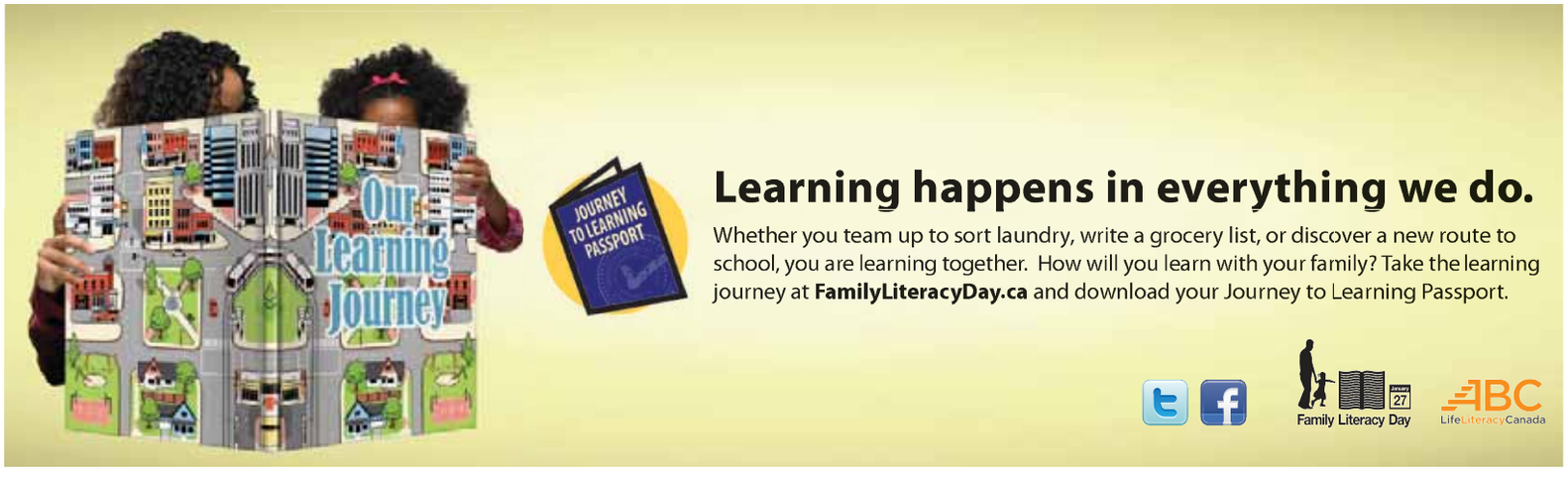
NLL

All Times Eastern

EAST DIVISION	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Buffalo	2	2	0	1.000	26	19	—
Rochester	2	1	1	.500	31	24	1
Philadelphia	2	1	1	.500	22	31	1
Toronto	2	0	2	.000	19	26	2

WEST DIVISION	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Colorado	3	3	0	1.000	46	38	—
Calgary	3	2	1	.667	37	32	1
Minnesota	1	0	1	.000	14	20	2
Edmonton	1	0	1	.000	12	13	2
Washington	2	0	2	.000	19	23	2½

WEEK FOUR
Friday's games
Rochester at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's games
Buffalo at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Rochester at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Toronto at Calgary, 9 p.m.
Edmonton at Washington, 10:30 p.m.



POWER SELLS

BUT THE TRICK IS SELLING THE RIGHT KIND

Building and selling cars in today's economic climate is one thing. Forcing new technology into the marketplace is quite another considering the risk-reward scenario. Billions of dollars spent on untested, unproven and ever-changing markets.

Despite the focus on electric cars and other forms of alternative fuel and all the money spent developing it, the simple fact is that if buyers have cheaper and more convenient options — especially when cash and credit are already tight — they will take that alternative just about every time.

The budding electric-vehicle market sounds tempting and even exciting, but the vehicles are pricey, don't go very far on a charge, it can take several hours for a top-up and there's the bigger question about where to top up when you are away from home. For the short term, electric cars will be small and limited to short highway jaunts and in-city driving.

More relevant to the masses for the 2012 model year are the obvious fuel-economy strides made on the cars we are more likely to buy: Internal combustion and gas-electric hybrids that blend gasoline engines with helper electric motors to seriously cut consumption.

When it comes to internal combustion, automakers have handled the fuel-economy challenge in four key ways: Cutting the flab; going with smaller engines (and bolting on power adders where necessary, such as superchargers and turbochargers); adding transmission gears to increase an engine's mechanical advantage and reduce the revs on the highway; and new engine technology such as direct fuel injection and start-stop, which shuts off the car when it's not moving.

Each provides incremental gains in fuel economy, but when all are implemented, the gains are worth more than the sum of their parts.

And this has become normal in the car business, to the point that the money spent developing fuel-saving tech is not generally affecting the price of new vehicles, aside from the modest year-over-year increases.

We say generally because the price of entry-level cars is on the rise, ironically due to buyer economics as they downshift into smaller, cheaper and more fuel-efficient cars.

But they are also dramatically better cars than they were a few years ago, some with spectacular design touches and sexy sells.

The challenge is in the luxury leagues, where cutting cylinders and power in the interest of fuel economy makes the big price tags tough for buyers to swallow, since the industry has conditioned us to believe that more cylinders will cost you more, and in the luxury leagues it can be tens of thousands of dollars more.

So, is high-powered fun a thing of the past? Oddly, there's quite a bit more fun in a couple of categories as horsepower levels — which are often tied to efficiency improvements — dramatically climb. The 2012 Camaro ZL1, for example is pegged at 580 horsepower, granted those "fun" examples seem fewer and farther between, even as the average V6 now makes 300 horsepower.

In that context, fun is all around us.

So, for 2012, it's a mixed bag of fancy new wagons, the culling of poor-selling and inefficient models, the arrival of sleek small cars from most of the major automakers, and raucous power in small doses.

And this makes 2012 one of the most interesting new-car seasons of the last decade.

– Jeff Melnychuk
wheelbasemedia.com

REACHING FOR THE SKY

Mazda3 Sedan

MAZDA INTRODUCES 'SKYACTIV' TO BOOST POWER, EFFICIENCY

It's a big and scary automotive world out there and automakers are pooling their resources to share technology and platforms with the idea of spreading development costs and cutting the time to market.

Mazda is actually without a dance partner and the company's advertising is pretty clear that that doesn't seem to matter, indicating that its individuality provides a unique product experience.

Sure thing, but it also means Mazda is not developing electric technologies for what it views as a fringe market. Instead, citing that internal combustion will be the backbone of the auto industry for another 20 years, the company would rather spend what development money it does have on building better "normal" cars with a special emphasis on fuel efficiency.

The Mazda3's 2.0-litre, four-cylinder uses Mazda's new "Skyactiv" direct-gasoline-injection technology to boost both power and efficiency. Compared to the old 2.0-litre (which carries over in the base Mazda3), the Skyactiv has 155 horsepower (versus 148) and 148 pound-feet of torque (versus 135). It also wins in fuel economy, too, netting 7.1/4.9 l/100 km (city/highway) with the available six-speed automatic transmission or 7.7/5.0 with the six-speed manual. Very impressive.

What most people don't know, even in the auto-writing world, is that Skyactiv is more than just a powertrain upgrade as the philosophy extends to lowering weight, improving chassis stiffness and steering response.

Skyactiv is basically a whole new Mazda3. If you are not getting into the Skyactiv game, your choices consist of carryover models from 2011. The one noticeably different Mazda for the new model year is the Mazda5.

Introduced for the 2006 model year, it delivered plenty of style, comfort for six people and exceptional fuel economy all wrapped up in a compact package and the newly updated 2012 edition promises more of the same.

The Mazda5 is based on the Mazda3 sedan/hatchback platform, except that it has been stretched by 12 centimetres between the front and rear wheels to accommodate three rows of seats. Interestingly, Mazda's mini minivan is actually a hair shorter than the Mazda3 sedan, which restricts the amount of gear you can cram into the back when all three rows of seats are in use.

Along with its refreshed styling, the Mazda5 now comes with a standard 2.5-litre, four-cylinder powerplant that produces a peak 157 horsepower and 163 pound-feet of torque, up from 153 horses and 148 pound-feet of torque that the outgoing 2.3-litre generated.

In essence, the Mazda5 is the complete package, minus the size and capacity of its much bigger competitors, of course, but also without their much higher list prices and their bigger appetites at the gas pumps.

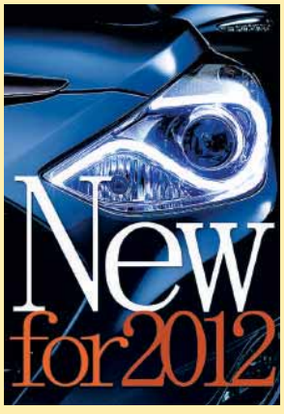
– wheelbasemedia.com

Mazda 5 Mini Minvan – $23,600 (est.) base price, including destination.

MAZDA'S HOT NEWS FOR 2012

- Updated Mazda5 mini minivan arrives with a bigger engine and wispy body panels.
- Skyactiv begins with the Mazda3.
- We're misty-eyed over the departure of the RX-8 and its rotary engine.
- Fuel-economy improvements for Mazda2.

CARRYOVER: CX-7; CX-9; Mazda2; Mazda6; MX-5
GONE: RX-8; Tribute



BASE PRICES
INCLUDING DESTINATION

MAZDA2: FOUR-DOOR HATCH – $15,500

CX-9: SEVEN-PASS. TALL WAGON – $38,200

CX-7: FIVE-PASS. TALL WAGON – $28,300

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GS model shown

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#0% APR purchase financing is available on remaining 2011 Mazda vehicles. 84-month term available on 2011 Mazda3, Mazda6, MX-5, RX-8, Tribute and CX-7. Other terms vary by model. Financed pricing for new 2011 Mazda 2 GX(B5XB51AA00) is $15,524.20/2011 Mazda 6 is (G4SY81AB00) is $29,023.20/2011 Mazda CX 7 GX FWD(PVXY81AA00) is $28,483.20 – financed at 0.9% for over 84 months for the 2011 Mazda 2 GX and 0% over 84 months for 2011 Mazda 6/Mazda CX 7 equaling bi-weekly payments $88/$159/$157 with $0 down payment, the cost of borrowing is $533.34/$0 for the 2011 Mazda 2 GX/2011 Mazda 6/Mazda CX 7, the total finance obligation is $16,037.1/$29,023.20/$28,483.20 for the 2011 Mazda 2 GX/Mazda 6 GS /Mazda CX 7– OAC. Price includes freight, P.D.I and fees. PPSA, License, insurance, taxes are extra. Down payment maybe required. 0% APR purchase financing up to 36 months is available on new 2012 Mazda vehicles. Based on a representative agreement using an offered pricing of $20,983 for the new 2012 Mazda3 GS-SKY (D4SK62AA00) with a financed amount of $23,711.02, the cost of borrowing at 2.9% APR for a 84 month term is $2,529.88, bi weekly payment is $127 +HST, total finance obligation is $26,240.90. Conditions apply – OAC. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer trade may be necessary on certain vehicles. Offers valid until January 31, 2012 or while supplies last. Offers subject to change without notice. Ask Dealer for the Mazda Loyalty Offer – Conditions Apply Owner Loyalty offer valid to January 31st, 2012. Lease and Finance rate reduction will not reduce rates below 0%- OAC. See dealer for complete details. Cash rebates & special finance or lease rates cannot be combined. ALG Canada online survey of 2,507 Canadian adults August 24 – November 1, 2011. ALG Inc., is a subsidiary of True Car, Inc. 4.9 L/100 km (58 MPG) Highway/7.1 L/100 km (40 MPG) City – Based on ENERGUIDE Fuel Consumption Rating for the 2012 Mazda3 GS-SKY sedan with 6-speed automatic transmission. Model may not be exactly as shown. These estimates are based on Government of Canada approved criteria and testing methods. Actual fuel consumption may vary. MPG is listed in Imperial gallons. Visit mazda.ca or Yorkdale Dufferin Mazda for complete details.

HONDA'S HOT NEWS FOR 2012

• After a new CR-Z hybrid and a fussy-looking Odyssey minivan, we didn't expect a lot for the 2012 model year, but then ...
• The new 2012 Civic arrives, more of an evolution than a revolution.
• The new CR-V is is priced lower than the 2011 model.
• Fit and Ridgeline styling updates.
• Pilot plastic surgery.

Honda CR-V: Compact SUV – $27,500 (est.) base price, including destination.

• Insight smartens up a bit with a restyle, but it still doesn't pretend to be a Prius.

CARRYOVER: Accord; Crosstour; CR-Z; Insight; Odyssey
GONE: Element

JUST THE BEGINNING

THE 2012 HONDA CIVIC IS MORE OF AN EVOLUTION THAN A REVOLUTION

After a seemingly hectic 2011 model year with new vehicles and new updates, it turns out that that was just the beginning. For the 2012 model year, Honda offers up a new Civic, which was launched in May 2011, although both the coupes and sedans have evolved only modestly when compared to their previous-gen counterparts.

The rooflines are a bit more sweeping (what Honda calls a "one-motion profile") and the front roof pillars are now thinner for improved visibility. The sheet metal on the sedan and slightly shorter coupe is attached to a stiffer platform that reduces the distance between the front and rear wheels by about 2.5 centimetres.

Despite this, Honda has increased shoulder and leg room for front- and rear-seat passengers and modestly enlarged trunk space. The automaker also restyled the two-tier instrument panel into a slightly more formal layout. The centrally located tachometer is topped by a speedometer and available five-inch screen that can display key operating and audio selection info.

No major alterations were made to the Civic's base 140-horsepower, 1.8-litre, four-cylinder engine, other than to tweak it for fuel economy.

However, the sporty Si coupe and sedan receive a more energetic 2.4-litre, four-cylinder that generates 201 horsepower (up from 197) and 170 pound-feet of torque, which is 31 more than the 2.0-litre 2011 model.

Also back for 2012 is the significantly changed Civic Hybrid sedan with a 1.5-litre, four-cylinder combined with an electric motor that together make 110 horsepower. The system now employs a lighter and more advanced lithium-ion battery, replacing the previous nickel-metal-hydride unit. Honda claims the Hybrid will achieve a 4.4 l/100 km city rating compared to 4.7 for the 2011 version.

The CR-V wagon was launched in January and comes with value compared to the 2011 models.

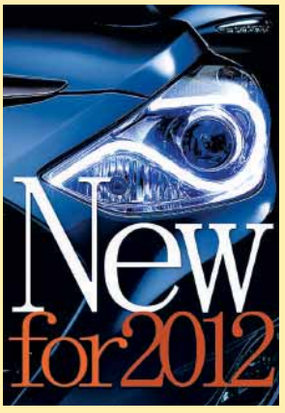
The base CR-V comes standard with the following: Rearview camera; Bluetooth; SMS text feature; heated seats; i-MID, a full-colour intelligent multi-information display; air conditioning; and cruise control. These features add $2,500 in value on the base model alone.

Elsewhere for 2012, the Ridgeline truck gets a minor nose job and slightly improved fuel economy.

The new top-line Ridgeline Sport shows up, too, with special 18-inch black alloy wheels (17-inchers are standard) and a blacked-out honeycomb-style grille and headlight/brake light housings.

– wheelbase media.com

Honda Civic Si Coupe



BASE PRICES
INCLUDING DESTINATION

CIVIC: COMPACT SEDAN/COUPE – $16,500 (SEDAN)

CR-Z: TWO-DOOR HATCHBACK HYBRID – $24,900

INSIGHT: FOUR-DOOR SEDAN – $25,000 (EST.)

CROSSTOUR: FOUR-DOOR HATCHBACK – $36,500

ACCORD: COUPE/FULL-SIZE SEDAN – $26,350 (SEDAN)

RIDGELINE: FOUR-DOOR PICKUP – $36,600

FIT: FOUR-DOOR WAGON – $15,900

ODYSSEY: MINIVAN – $31,600

PILOT: MID-SIZE SUV – $36,400

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*Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2011. Vehicles not exactly as illustrated. See Formula Honda for details.

| CT 200H Four-door hatchback hybrid – $32,900 (est.) base price, including destination.

DRIVEN TO NEXT LEVEL

LEXUS CT 200H RESPONDS TO DEMANDS OF LUXURY DRIVER

The Lexus CT 200h is the world's first luxury hybrid sportback, featuring agile handling and performance, a starting price of $30,950 (which is the same as the 2011), luxurious design, driver-focused interior, and excellent fuel efficiency.

Based almost entirely on parent Toyota's four-door Prius, the HS 250h has gone through a thorough reworking of the chassis, suspension and technology systems to make them worthy of the brand. The styling is about as far from the Prius as you can get.

The headlights, grille and front bumpers follow the same cues as the HS, while the rear looks like a shrunken RX. The wide-mouthed front, low-ride height and 17-inch wheels are supposed to promise a more sporting drive, but the standard powertrain is not about that.

While the HS gets a 2.4-litre internal-combustion engine, the CT comes with the Prius's 1.8-litre four-cylinder, boosted with a 27-kilowatt electric motor, which combines to deliver 134 horsepower. The CT is a front driver with a continually variable transmission. The zero-to-100-km/h time of 10 seconds is rather leisurely, but fuel efficiency is a strong suit, helped by the CT's ability to drive on electric power alone at 50 km/h for up to 1.5 kilometres.

Those drivers looking for more feedback would be wise to choose the new-for-2012 F Sport package that includes a tighter suspension, unique 17-inch wheels, blacked-out grille, along with leather sport seats, aluminum pedals and metallic trim. The extra $5,400 might seem steep, but the $8,400 Technology Package adds premium sound system, satnav, leather and a power moonroof.

"The CT 200h responds to the demands of a new luxury customer — one who is urban aware and desires road-hugging performance and class-leading fuel efficiency, plus all the rewards of a luxury vehicle that suits their modern lifestyle," said Larry Hutchinson, director of Lexus in Canada. "This year, we've taken the world's first luxury hybrid sportback to the next level. The available F-Sport package enhances the performance of the CT 200h while adding distinctive styling cues that speak to this advanced hybrid's fun to drive character."

Big off-roaders such as the GX 460 features a 301-horsepower, 4.6-litre V8 that replaced the 263-horsepower, 4.7-litre V8. Fuel economy is 14.1/9.8 (city/highway) l/100 km, a slight improvement that has as much to do with the six-speed automatic transmission that replaced the five-speed automatic.

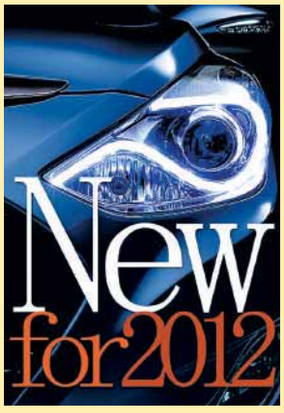
This heavy-duty off-roader is based on parent Toyota's 4Runner's ladder-frame chassis, but, being a Lexus, it takes the off-road experience to a more luxurious level. As for the items that pamper, the GX features dual-zone climate control, power sunroof, integrated running boards, multi-adjustable power front seats, a nine-speaker premium sound system, a backup camera and plenty of wood trim.

– Metro/wheelbasemedia.com

| IS 350 sedan – $44,950 (est.) base price, including destination.

WHAT TO EXPECT LATER THIS YEAR

- After the recent destruction in Japan, the big news is that there's still a Lexus.
- Hybrids rule the Lexus roost as the latest CT 200h compact strikes a chord with buyers.
- New ES 350 likely coming for 2013.
- Expect a new GS sedan to arrive mid-year sporting a maximum of six pistons.



BASE PRICES
INCLUDING DESTINATION

IS-F: QUICK-AND-FAST COMPACT SEDAN – $71,900

ES 350: MID-SIZE SEDAN – $44,100

HS 250H: COMPACT HYBRID SEDAN – $42,800

RX 350: MID-SIZE SUV – $46,900

LX 570: LUXURY SUV – $89,950

LS 460: FULL-SIZE SEDAN – $85,000

GX 460: FULL-SIZE SUV – $64,150

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†Complete Lexus Price is $33,035 for a new 2011 Lexus CT 200h Sfx 'A'. ÐUpgraded CT 200h package shown: $41,435. Complete Lexus Price includes freight /PDI ($1,950), EHF Tires ($29), EHF Filters ($1), A/C Tax ($100), and OMVIC Fee ($5). Taxes, license, registration (if applicable) and insurance are extra. Lexus Dealers are free to set their own prices. May require factory order. Offers are subject to change without notice. See your Lexus dealer for complete details.

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| BMW Z4 Roadster – $55,000 (est.) base price, including destination.

SIMPLY BEAMING

BMW HOT RELEASES INCLUDE Z4 ROADSTER, 5-SERIES SEDAN

As is the case with Audi and Mercedes-Benz, BMW's focus has turned from larger wagons and sport utility vehicles to updating the car line for 2012, and we're not just talking about two hot releases.

Both the BMW Z4 roadster and the mid-sized 5-series sedan have new base four-cylinder engines, each fitted with a turbocharger to add passing power to what would be an otherwise too-small-for-the-application engine. It's the way of the future. Look for it in the next 3 Series car line (a new larger sedan arrives this winter) and in the new-for-2012 X1 compact wagon that's here now.

Visually, you could easily confuse the new X1 xDrive28i with BMW's existing X3, so similar is the physical resemblance.

However, the X1 is shorter and narrower by about 20 centimetres and 7.5 centimetres, respectively, and five centimetres shorter between the front and rear wheels.

The X1 doesn't come up short in interior accommodations, though. The front seats feel wonderfully supportive, as they do with most BMWs, while rear-seat leg and knee room might only be a problem for tall types.

The 2.0-litre, turbocharged four-cylinder — as in the Z4 and 5 Series — puts out a very respectable 241 horsepower and 258 pound-feet of torque.

All X1's come with permanent all-wheel drive that splits the torque equally between the front and rear wheels in normal driving, but can shift 100 per cent of the torque to whichever axle has the most grip.

To hold the starting price in the low-$40,000 territory, the base X1 is on the stark side, devoid of leather seats, fancy interior/exterior trim and a number mechanical/safety features.

On the option list is a panoramic glass roof, larger-diameter rims,

| 5 Series: Full-size sedan; $55,000 (est.)

NEW, LARGER BMW 3 SERIES DUE TO ARRIVE IN FEBRUARY

- New entry-level X1 opens the world of all-wheel-drive BMWs to more buyers.
- Elegant 6 Series redesign.
- New larger 3 Series arriving in February.
- Turbocharged four-cylinder the new standard engine in the 5 Series, Z4 and upcoming 3 Series.
- 1M coupe flows M3 performance into smaller, six-cylinder package.
- X6 and 7 Series so far the only two BMWs to offer hybrid options.

BASE PRICES, INCLUDING DESTINATION

1 SERIES: COMPACT COUPE/CONV – $38,000

6 SERIES: MID-SIZED COUPE/CONVERT – $97,500

7 SERIES: FULL-SIZE SEDAN – $112,300

X1: COMPACT WAGON – $40,500

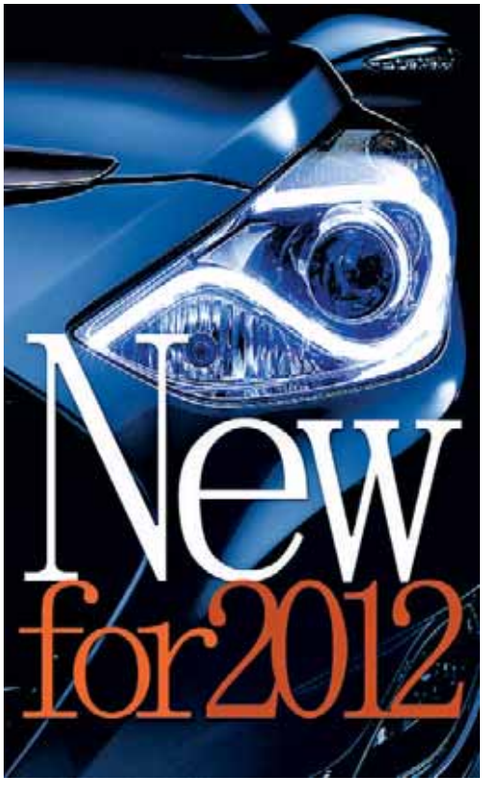
6 SERIES: MID-SIZED COUPE/CONVERT – $97,500

X5: MID-SIZE SUV – $63,800

X6: NICHE-UTILITY FOUR-DOOR – $68,650

3 SERIES SEDAN: MID-SIZE SEDAN – $44,000 (EST.)

X3: COMPACT SUV – $43,900



heated leather seats, up-level audio/navigation system and a sport steering wheel with paddle shifters for the automatic transmission. Also offered is an aero body kit that is part of the M sports package.

Speaking of M — which means Motorsports — the buzz around the 1 Series car line involves the sporty 1M with performance that rivals the larger V8-powered M3.

The 1M's calling card is the giant wheel/tire package covered by stretched fender lips on all four corners. For this model, the turbocharged six-cylinder makes 335 horsepower and the transmission is a six-speed manual. All this fun will set you back about $55,600, so you have to wonder just how much fun you would have for $40,000 more.

For $97,500, the new 6 Series Coupe and Convertible are gorgeous and the beauty extends inside with a finely tailored interior and control panel that can be had with a higher resolution head-up display that projects vital vehicle information onto the windshield. There's a huge list of safety equipment and electronics to keep you out of harm's way, but a car like this needs a great stereo: The optional 16-speaker, 1,200-watt Bang & Olufsen system.

Keeping the 650i on the go is a twin-turbocharged 4.4-litre V8 that lays down 400 horsepower and 450 pound-feet of torque. Shifting is via an eight-speed automatic transmission, or optional (at no extra discount) six-speed manual. The M6 will likely return for 2013 with 560 horsepower.

– wheelbasemedia.com

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U4263A	2005 325i Executive	Black Sapphire	111,654	$14,504*
NT2114A	2008 128i Cabriolet	Black	73,131	$33,898*
PP4111	2008 323i Sedan	Jet Black	71,268	$25,995*
PP4140	2008 323i Sedan	Platinum Bronze Metallic	45,491	$25,998*
PP4131	2008 328i Sedan	Titanium Silver Metallic	73,331	$29,995*
U3781	2008 328xi Sedan	Platinum Bronze Metallic	67,125	$33,898*
PP4030	2008 335i Coupe	Alpine White	53,721	$35,898*
PP4042	2008 335i Sedan	Monaco Blue Metallic	54,137	$33,900*
PP4126	2008 335i Sedan	Barbera Red Metallic	73,331	$29,995*

2008 323i Sedan** $24,898*
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Titanium model shown.

2012 FOCUS SE

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Cost of borrowing is [$1,313/$0/$0] or APR of [2.99%/0%/0%] and total to be repaid is [$15,288/$17,279/$21,479]. All offers include freight, air tax, PPSA and Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. Taxes are payable on the full amount of the purchase price. Bi-Weekly payments are only available using a customer initiated PC (Internet Banking) or Phone Pay system through the customer’s own bank (if offered by that financial institution). The customer is required to sign a monthly payment contract and furnish a cheque in the amount of the first bi-weekly payment on the contract date. Subsequent bi-weekly payments will be made via a PC or Phone Pay system commencing 2 weeks following the contract date. **Lease a new 2012 [Ford Focus SE 4 Door Manual /Fiesta SE Hatchback Manual] and get [0%/2.99%] APR for 48 months on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. 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Offers include freight, air tax, PPSA, Stewardship Ontario Environmental Fee but exclude administration and registration fees of up to $799, fuel fill charge of up to $120 and all applicable taxes. † From Jan. 16, 2012 to Jan 30, 2012, receive 0% APR purchase financing on new [2011 Focus (excluding S), 2011 Fusion (excluding S), 2011 Mustang (excluding Value Leader, GT500 and Boss 302), 2011 Taurus (excluding SE), 2011 Flex (excluding SE), 2011 Escape (excluding I4 manual), 2011 Expedition, 2012 Edge (excluding SE)]/[2012 Fiesta (excluding S), 2012 Expedition]/[2011 Fiesta (excluding S), 2012 Focus (excluding S), 2012 Mustang (excluding Value Leader, GT500 and Boss 302), 2012 Taurus (excluding SE), 2011 Edge (excluding SE), 2012 Flex (excluding SE), 2011 Ranger Super Cab (excluding XL), 2012 F-150 (excluding Raptor and Regular Cab XL 4x2 Value Leader), 2011 and 2012 F-250 to F-450 (excluding Chassis Cabs)]/ [2011 F-150 (excluding Raptor and Regular Cab XL 4x2 Value Leader), 2012 Fusion (excluding S), 2012 Escape (excluding I4 manual)] models for a maximum of [36]/[48]/[60]/[72] months to qualified retail customers, on approved credit (OAC) from Ford Credit. 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Fuel miser

The Skyactiv's performance is achieved from a higher-than-usual 12.0:1 compression ratio. Normally this would necessitate a premium-gasoline diet, but changes to the fuel management and engine design allow it to burn lower-octane — and less expensive — regular fuel.

The Skyactiv's six-speed automatic is the real fuel miser here with a consumption rating of 7.1 l/100 km city and 4.9 highway.

That's a major improvement over the 8.7/6.0 rating of the five-speed-automatic/base-2.0 combo.

Peppier ride

A few hundred kilometres of seat time confirms that the nature of the Mazda3 has changed for the better.

Although hardly a rocket ship (check out the 263-horsepower Mazdaspeed3 if that's your pleasure), the new model drives in a much sportier manner and certainly feels peppier.

Engine

Compared to the standard Mazda3, there's a revised — as in more aerodynamic — nose and tail. There's also a new Skyactiv 2.0-litre four-cylinder engine that's brimming with high-tech tricks.

It produces 155 horsepower and 148 pound-feet of torque. The base non-Skyactiv 2.0-litre engine makes 148 horsepower and 135 pound-feet of torque and is only available in base of the sedan. The optional 167-horsepower 2.5-litre four-cylinder also carries over in both sedan and hatch.

▶ The Mazda3 is broken into two camps for 2012: standard carryover tech from 2011; and the upgraded platform with the new powertrain available in sedan and hatchback. Skyactiv is not an engine or an option package, but rather a whole different car.

Forget hybrids: Mazda's not giving up on gas

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

It's common for automakers to give labels to their more fuel-efficient offerings, whether that efficiency is real or perceived. It's marketing and sales at its finest.

There's Ford's EcoBoost line of engines as well as Chevrolet's Ecotec and eAssist. And of course there's Toyota's Hybrid Synergy Drive electric/gas system.

Mazda, however, has taken the name game one step further by branding a whole car with its new "Skyactiv" magic wand.

The rationale behind this approach is straightforward. Mazda thinks traditional gasoline and diesel engines will remain the most popular form of automotive propulsion for the next few years. It therefore makes sense to continue refining those powerplants to be more efficient rather than spending millions of dollars on alternative-fuel vehicles, which make up a tiny slice of the pie.

Fair enough, but the reality is that other manufacturers are also refining internal combustion while still finding the resources to explore hybrids and electrics. Just look at the Chevrolet Volt. But what you won't read elsewhere is that Skyactiv is really a wholesale approach to a better driving experience with a reengineered chassis, transmissions and steering.

Fuel economy is just one aspect.

▶ The Mazda3 Skyactiv boasts updated engine tech and six forward gears instead of five for the transmissions. The raised lip behind the instrument cluster houses a couple of small display screens that look a little out of place.

▶ Plans call for new tech that shuts off the engine when the Mazda3 is stopped and instantly starts it up again when the brake pedal is released.

Mazda3 Skyactiv

What you should know about the 2012 Mazda3 Skyactiv:

- **Types:** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (155).
- **Transmission:** Six-speed manual; six-speed automatic (opt.).
- **Market position:** You won't hear about any Mazda gas-electric hybrid models anytime soon as the automaker specializes in sporty, fuel-efficient vehicles under its Skyactiv banner. But does that really make the strategy unique?
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 7.1/4.9 (AT).

5 drive

By comparison

Ford Focus
Base price: $17,600
2012 version available in sedan, hatch formats plus upcoming electric model.

Honda Civic
Base price: $16,400
Sedans and coupes offer a good mix of performance and fuel economy.

Hyundai Elantra
Base price: $17,350
Cool-looking sedan delivers great looks and excellent fuel economy.

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▶ Hyundai's new-look 2013 Genesis Coupe.

▶ Scion FR-S.

▶ Toyota NS4 hybrid.

It might be time to drive the dream

Auto show season kicks off the right way in Detroit ◐ With automakers feeling bullish, we stand to reap the benefits

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

The Honda executive presenting the new Acura NSX supercar never stood a chance.

During the media days that preceded the 2012 North American International Auto Show, which wrapped up Jan. 21, he "kindly" invited the Detroit audience of journalists onto the stage for a look. Well, ask and ye shall receive: a flash mob of assorted scribes and photographers stampeded their way to their quarry with cameras blazing.

"I really thought the presenter was going to be trampled," said a nearby Honda public-relations type. This type of excitement is a rare sight at any auto show, and within three years the NSX concept will transform into a production hybrid halo car for Honda's premium division.

Before the unveiling, at the opposite end of Detroit's Cobo Hall, Mark Templin, general manager of Toyota's upscale Lexus division, had warmed up the press with the flashy LF-LC hybrid sports-car concept, which is rumoured to be production-bound.

Sandwiched between these exotic automotive bookmarks were two more sports cars that share the same basic architecture and powerplants. Both the rear-wheel-drive Subaru BRZ and the FR-S that Toyota will market under the Scion label will go on sale later this year.

And providing a sidebar to all this sporty action was Hyundai's 2013 Genesis Coupe and Veloster hatchback. The Genesis features new looks and significantly added power for both the base 2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder and the 3.8-litre V-6. Both powerplants also receive new eight-speed automatic transmissions to augment the standard manual transmissions. Meanwhile, the 2013 Veloster can be had with a turbocharged version of its 1.6-litre engine that bumps the power to 201 ponies from 138.

The predominantly special-interest machinery provides a clear indication that the global community of automakers is feeling decidedly bullish about the future and is enthusiastically releasing plenty of new stuff, from ultra-green electrics to pricey exotics and everything in between.

Filling that "in-between" area is the traditional four-door sedan, which represents the sweet spot for car companies where volume sales drive revenues and the competition.

In this arena, Ford's 2013 Fusion sedan is very big news indeed. It's clearly influenced by the Aston Martin Rapide, Audi A7 and other high-end four-door "coupe" designs, but still it manages to look singularly spectacular.

The Fusion will be offered in front- and all-wheel-drive and with a choice of manual and automatic transmissions. There will be two turbocharged four-cylinder gasoline engines and one non-turbo four-cylinder engine, in addition to gas-electric hybrid and plug-in hybrid models. No other brand comes close to matching the Fusion for powertrain variety.

For added luxury, the equally elegant 2013 Lincoln MKZ will provide similar looks in a more upscale package. The MKZ and Fusion traditionally share the same platform.

Another premium offering is the 2013 Cadillac ATS sedan that's a step down in size from the CTS. Available engines include a 200-horsepower four-cylinder, a 270-horsepower turbocharged four-cylinder and a 318-horsepower V-6. The ATS is touted as being a competitor to the BMW Series sedan, which is certainly a tall order.

If the Detroit show is any indication, however, this year there will be very few new trucks or tall wagons running the circuit, which is really no surprise based on recent trends that have both buyers and automakers thinking about size, fuel economy and bang for the buck.

Still, it's rare to see the kind of stage-trampling excitement that the NSX concept garnered, which, coupled with a healthy year for the auto industry and slight economic improvement, could mean that more people are thinking about driving the dream.

Behold the Acura NSX, which caused a stampede in Detroit. The concept is set to become the long-awaited successor to the 1991-'05 car.

Whimsical

▶ Despite the fact that auto shows in general are more reality based than they used to be, this year's auto-show season will provide plenty of purely whimsical concepts. For example, BMW has its i3 electric and stunning i8 hybrid concepts and the Smart brand is showing a wacky electric hauler called the Forus. As well, Toyota's NS4 hybrid provides a possible clue as to how much better the next-generation Prius might look.

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2012 Dodge Grand Caravan Crew shown.‡

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▶ Jim Lentz, president of Toyota's U.S. sales division, is pictured onstage with the Prius-c at the recent auto show in Detroit.

Hybrid sales are steadily increasing. But it's been a tough slog, like the road under them has been curiously strewn with chicken fat, or some other equally slippery substance.

Hybrids still seem only to attract those "early adopters" of technology. Mainstream buyers still stay away in droves.

Will mainstream buyers ever make the shift?

I put that question to Jim Lentz, president of Toyota's U.S. sales division, just after he had the honours of unveiling the automaker's newest hybrid — Prius-c — at the recent auto show in Detroit.

Lentz felt some mainstream buyers have already made the shift, by virtue of their acceptance of the hybrid versions of Camry and Highlander. He admitted, however, that mainstream hybrid buyers have yet to show up "in abundance."

"But I think by the middle of this decade, it will become a mainstream technology," said Lentz.

Earlier, he had outlined how the company plans to grow its hybrid business: by getting more hybrids into the hands of early adopters of every stripe, and letting this increasingly larger group prove the righteousness of the technology (not his words exactly).

Then, these early adopters become advocates of the hybrid cause and help it reach broader appeal.

Well that's one way of looking at it. The other is that mainstream buyers have had lots of chances to take long, hard looks at hybrid technology and said "no thanks."

Lentz acknowledges that mainstream buyers are partially focused on fuel prices. If they go up, they should turn to hybrids. If they don't, they might not.

For that reason, he wouldn't hazard a guess as to what percentage of Toyota sales might be hybrids and/or other alternative technology in the next few years.

"The price of fuel is such an extreme driver of that," noted Lentz.

"Once hybrids are accepted throughout the mainstream, beyond the fluctuation of price, it will be easier to gauge that percentage."

> **"I think by the middle of this decade, it will become a mainstream technology."**
> JIM LENTZ OF TOYOTA, DISCUSSING THE FUTURE OF HYBRID VEHICLES

But the hybrid plot certainly thickened with the introduction of this new Prius-c (the "c" is for city).

The newest member of the Prius family looks like a great, little hatch, even before you consider its billing as the most fuel-efficient vehicle you can buy without a plug. Toyota Canada says its combined city/highway rating is 3.7 L/100 km (53 mpg).

Also expect a starting MSRP below $21,000. Its desired audience is young, urban buyers previously priced out of the hybrid market. Lentz called it a "gateway" vehicle for hybrid technology.

"It's a key component to the overall Prius strategy, by adding substantial incremental sales, and more importantly getting advocates to the Prius family and to the broad acceptance of hybrids."

TOYOTA

Amy F.

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Limited time lease and finance offers available from Toyota Financial Services on approved credit. *^All-in price of a new 2012 Camry LE (Model BF1FLTA/2012 Camry SE (Model BF1FSTA) is $25,400/$28,650. All-in price includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. †5.3% lease APR for 60 months. Monthly payment is $270 with a $2,950 down payment or trade equivalent, and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $19,147.00. All-in lease includes freight and fees (PDE, EHF, OMVIC fee and air condition tax, where applicable). HST, licensing, registration and insurance are extra. Dealer may sell for less. Based on a maximum of 100,000 KMS. Additional KM charge of $0.10 for excess kilometres, if applicable. ‡4.8% purchase finance APR for 60 months equals a bi-weekly payment of $194 for 130 bi-weekly payments with a down payment of $2,950. Cost of borrowing is $5,796.34, for a total obligation of $28,246.54. ¥Make No Payments for 90 Days when you purchase finance a new unregistered Toyota vehicle through Toyota Financial Services. Offer applies on approved credit to retail customers who purchase finance and take delivery by January 31, 2012. The first monthly payment will be deferred for 60 days (until the 90th day of the contract) and finance contracts will be extended accordingly. Interest charges will not accrue during the first 60 days of the contract. After 60 days, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay principal and interest over the term of the contract. ◆Cash Incentives are available on a new 2011 Venza FWD/2012 Matrix XRS, AWD/2012 Corolla Sport, LE, XRS, and a Cash Customer Incentive and a Cash Customer Incentive. $1,250/$500/$500 Customer Incentive is valid on Toyota retail delivery when leased, financed or purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. $3,500/$2,000/$2,000 Cash Customer Incentive is valid on retail delivery for all Toyota retail customers **except** customers who lease or purchase finance through Toyota Financial Services at a special rate of interest offered by Toyota as part of a low rate interest program. Advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Offers valid to retail customers (excluding fleet sales) when purchased from an Ontario Toyota dealership. Cash Customer Incentive will take place at time of delivery and will apply after taxes have been charged on the full amount of the negotiated price. Vehicles receiving Cash Incentives must be purchased, registered and delivered between January 4 and 31, 2012. Offers are valid between January 4 and 31, 2012, and are subject to change without notice. All rights are reserved. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Please see your participating Ontario Toyota dealer for full details.

G8 a solid performer that packed punch

SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

For performance buffs, the Pontiac G8 was only slightly less attractive than owning a four-door Firebird.

Simple premise with this machine. Shoppers could bring about $36,495 to their Pontiac dealers and leave with a brand new sedan stuffed with a V-8 engine that spun the rear wheels.

The 160,000-kilometre powertrain warranty and airbags made it an easy sell to that significant other, too.

Engine

Standard G8's got a 3.6-litre V-6 with 256 horsepower. The G8 GT got a six-litre, 361 horsepower V-8. Automatic transmissions were standard on all models.

What owners like

A high-performance driving experience, aggressive styling and pleasing handling were mentioned by most G8 owners.

Spaciousness, muscular performance and even fuel economy were also highly rated.

What owners dislike

Complaints centre around cheap interior trim pieces, some fussy controls and difficult-to-recline front seats.

Common issues

Listen for popping, clunking, grinding or snapping sounds from the front end while travelling over bumps at various speeds and angles. Any unwelcome sounds likely mean a suspension component is worn out or in need of replacement.

A well-documented problem with premature lower control arm wear resulted in a service bulletin — so a GM dealer should be able to address the problem in quick order.

Verdict

The G8 looks like a solid, robust and reliable performer. Remaining factory warranty should provide used G8 shoppers plenty of confidence, too.

Shoppers after a muscle sedan shouldn't expect any serious issues on a well-maintained used G8.

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2012

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*Limited time lease offers on a new 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan with Manual Transmission (Model FB2E4CEX) // 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE(S)) available through Honda Financial Services Inc. on approved credit. Representative lease example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan with Manual Transmission (Model FB2E4CEX) // 2012 Honda CR-V LX 2WD (Model RM3H3CE(S)) on a 48 // 48 month term at 2.99% // 3.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $197.98 // $297.76 [includes $1,395 // $1,590 freight and PDI, EHF fitres ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $2,430 // $3,400 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 // $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $11,933.04 // $17,692.48. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres. **$1,000 // $1,500 // $1,500 // $1,500 // $1,500 // $3,500 // $1,500 // $1,500 // $4,000 // $4,000 // $3,500 customer cash incentive is valid on any new 2011 Honda Fit // 2011 Honda Civic Sedan except Civic Sedan DX (model FA1E2BEX) // 2011 Honda Civic Coupe // 2011 Honda Accord Sedan except Accord SE with manual transmission (model CP2E6BE) // 2011 Honda Accord Coupe // 2011 Honda Accord Crosstour // 2011 Honda CR-V // 2011 Honda Odyssey // 2011 Honda Pilot // 2011 Honda Ridgeline models when purchased, registered and delivered between January 4 and January 31, 2012. Cash incentive is available for all Honda retail customers except customers who lease or finance through Honda Financial Services Inc. at a sub-vented rate of interest offered by Honda as part of a low rate interest program. All advertised lease and finance rates are special rates. Cash incentive will be deducted from the negotiated price before taxes. For all offers: license, insurance, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST and tax for fuel conservation, if applicable) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. ◊Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between 1997 and December 2011. †9.2 city/6.6 hwy/8.1 combined L/100 km. Fuel consumption for comparison purposes only and may vary with usage and accessories. See Dealer for latest EnerGuide results published by Natural Resources Canada (when available). ‡Multi-Angle Rearview Camera with Guidelines intended to provide assistance to the driver. Always exercise appropriate care while reversing. △Compatible with select smartphones. Your wireless carrier's rate plans apply. Only use texting feature when conditions allow you to do so safely.

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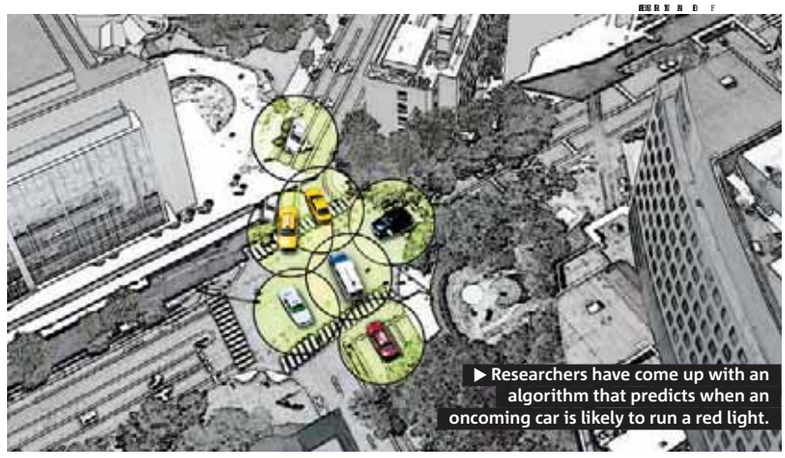

Researchers have come up with an algorithm that predicts when an oncoming car is likely to run a red light.

DRIVING FORCE

JIL McINTOSH
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

One of the most dangerous drivers is the "red-light runner" — one who, whether through inattention or impatience, doesn't stop at a red light. Researchers are now working to predict which drivers are going to do this and potentially program your car to warn you.

Red-light runners can be identified because they don't have the right "braking profile," says Jonathan How, R.C. Maclaurin professor of aerospace at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

1/2

According to the U.S. Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, half the people killed in red-light collisions are other drivers, passengers and pedestrians, not the driver who ran the light.

"They're not slowing down, which could be a case of just having missed the light," he says. "Or someone braking but not sufficiently, so the system would detect that they wouldn't likely stop in time. We're looking at acceleration, velocity and position."

By using these parameters, the MIT researchers came up with an algorithm that predicts when an oncoming car is likely to run a red light.

Testing with data collected from an actual intersection, they correctly identified red-light runners 85 per cent of the time, predicting within a couple of seconds whether a driver would run the light.

That could give other drivers enough time to react, providing they were given the information.

The ideal warning, How says, is through an existing technology called vehicle-to-vehicle (V2V) communication, in which cars wirelessly "talk" to each other to exchange information.

Using the information in the algorithm, a car that suspects its driver isn't going to stop would broadcast that to other cars approaching the intersection. Those cars would flash warnings to their drivers, who could then brake or take other evasive action.

While these oncoming cars could also be physically detected through sensors, How believes the V2V system is superior.

"It's important for visibility issues," he says. "Sensors can't see around corners or if someone's blocking you, like a big truck beside you at a light. V2V circumvents much of that because vehicles have the ability to say, 'Here I am, here's what I'm doing.' In many instances your visibility isn't what it should be, and this provides more information."

The researchers also have to ensure that the system isn't too sensitive.

"We had to think about low false-alarm rates and seeing how you can predict things well, but not be skittish," How says.

If a system overreacts too often, the driver will probably just shut it off.

How says the system, built into new cars and retrofitted to existing ones, could potentially hit the market in five to 10 years.

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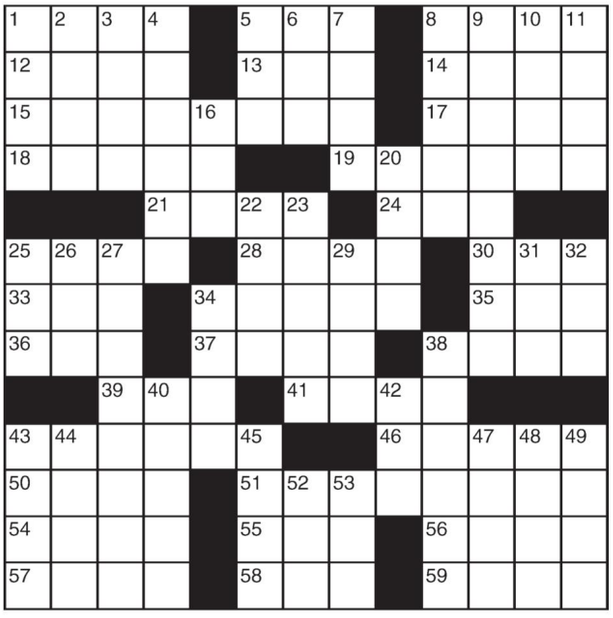
Crossword



Across
1 Protected
5 Transgression
8 Agile
12 Yoked team
13 Japanese pond carp
14 Hint
15 Making a vow
17 Luau dance
18 Excited
19 Carpentry tool
21 Campus mil. org.
24 Tennis stroke
25 Easy gait
28 Landlord's due
30 A Gershwin brother
33 Piercing tool
34 YouTube upload
35 Sister
36 1980s-90s Chevy subdivision
37 Top
38 Old
39 Bronze
41 Slow-cooker recipe
43 Photo finishes
46 Shortwave or CB
50 Eye part
51 Recent fad requiring one to lie stiff
54 Baseball team
55 Have a bug
56 Satanic
57 Lady —
58 Ball prop
59 Archibald of NBA lore

Down
1 Former frosh
2 Wheelbase terminus
3 Yard trio
4 Last
5 Tackle moguls
6 Charged bit
7 In the offing
8 Jerk
9 Pipes and such
10 Legislate
11 Calendar quota
16 Mailing HQ
20 Choir member
22 Stumble
23 Relinquishes
25 Trail behind
26 Have bills
27 Cabal's work
29 Adjoining
31 Regret
32 Moreover
34 Barn roof adornment
38 Stir
40 Bewildered
42 Coastal eagle
43 Chinese dynasty
44 Met melody
45 Quarrel
47 44-Down singer
48 First ltr.
49 Look longingly
52 Big fib
53 Hearty brew

▶ Yesterday's answer

A	P	E	X		A	H	A		U	R	S	A
L	A	M	A		V	O	L		N	E	O	N
P	L	U	N	D	E	R	S		K	N	O	T
			A	I	R		O	N	I	O	N	S
A	B	O	D	E		G	R	I	N			
L	U	L	U		F	L	A	N	D	E	R	S
A	L	G		I	L	O	N	A		D	U	H
S	L	A	N	D	E	R	S		P	I	S	A
			F	O	X	Y		P	U	T	T	Y
O	C	E	L	L	I		M	A	D			
P	A	L	E		B	L	I	N	D	E	R	S
U	S	S	R		L	E	T		L	E	E	K
S	H	E	S		E	A	T		E	N	V	Y

Sudoku

	4			3		6		
				8			5	3
				9	7	2		8
2	5				8		1	
				6				
	7		5				8	4
5		3	2	7				
6	8			5				
		4		1			9	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	3	6	1	8	5	7	2	9
9	5	2	7	3	4	8	6	1
8	7	1	2	6	9	4	3	5
3	8	7	5	9	2	6	1	4
6	1	9	8	4	7	2	5	3
2	4	5	6	1	3	9	8	7
1	2	3	4	7	8	5	9	6
5	9	4	3	2	6	1	7	8
7	6	8	9	5	1	3	4	2

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

TC, I can't imagine life without you. You are an amazing father, husband, and best friend. ILU4EVR **NESSA**

neil hollendaise-suase
We worked beside each other everyday, I love it. I hope you will see this and we can have a happy ending. I hope tommorow you forget your fork ..so we can share mine again. **TAYLOR**

Welsh Princess, Whereas others boasted of love but without the will to fight to keep it, ours has flourished more so through the hardships that we have faced. Although some problems were simply my own, you stood at my side and fought them with me. One other from Fort Sask. talked the talk but couldn't walk the walk. but you are my rock, my eternal love. I'm blessed to have you in my life. Each day I wake up beside you to see that you are an angel asleep on my shoulder. I love you, my love. **HANDSOME**

Today
1°/-4°
Cloudy
Thursday
3°/0°
Variable
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Check your local listings for details.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
You seem to be worrying about something that is not worth the hassle. It's best if you let it go.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
The message of the stars is clear: Don't be hasty. You will get your chance to shine early next month.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
You'll have to deal with someone's negative emotions today, without becoming negative yourself.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22
Do you ignore a problem and hope that it will go away? Yes. This is one of those occasions when what looks like a problem really isn't.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
Be careful what you say today because if you are not, someone could take it the wrong way.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
Look on the bright side today, even if the news you receive is dark. According to the planets, you have little to worry about.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
This is potentially one of the most exciting times of the year, so why are you so fearful that something bad is going to happen?

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
Try not to dwell on news, especially if it involves people you care for.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
The signals you are getting from colleagues are jumbled. It might be wise follow your instincts.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
You may be logical by nature but right now you are imagining weird and wonderful things. That's OK.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Although you feel confident and full of life, this is probably not a good day to take chances.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
The Sun in Aquarius at this time of year makes you more suspicious than usual but maybe that's no bad thing. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

GURINDER OSAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SUSAN MONTOYA BRYAN/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN!

You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in Wednesday's Metro.

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0% FINANCING ON ALL 2012's** | PAY UNTIL SPRING◆ ON SELECT MODELS

The All-New FUEL-EFFICIENT

Rio5 EX Luxury shown

THE KIA ADVANTAGE | HEATED SIDE MIRRORS | ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

RIO 5-DOOR

HWY: 4.9L/100KM
CITY: 6.6L/100KM

OWN IT FROM **$108††** FLEX CHOICE Finance with Option to Return

bi-weekly for 48 months. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,489.
BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $15,584.

$0 DOWN PAYMENT

AT **2.9%** APR

TOP SAFETY PICK 2011^ INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

AUTO 2012 "2012 Mid-Size Car of the Year"

Optima SX Turbo shown

THE KIA ADVANTAGE | HEATED FRONT SEATS | ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

AJAC 1 www.ajac.ca Automobile Journalists Association of Canada

AJAC 2 www.ajac.ca Automobile Journalists Association of Canada

THE ALL-NEW OPTIMA

HWY: 5.7L/100KM
CITY: 8.7L/100KM

CASH PURCHASE PRICE FROM **$22,084◆**

Includes delivery and destination, fees and $1,500 Cash Savings.
Optima Hybrid Best New Family Car (over $30,000)[1]
& Optima LX Best New Family Car (under $30,000)[2]

ALSO AVAILABLE: OPTIMA HYBRID
$1,000 ECO-CREDIT™
PLUS
UP TO **$1,250**
Loyalty bonus* or Competitive bonus‡

TOP SAFETY PICK 2012^ INSURANCE INSTITUTE FOR HIGHWAY SAFETY

Forte SX shown

THE KIA ADVANTAGE | HEATED SIDE MIRRORS | ELECTRONIC STABILITY CONTROL

FORTE SEDAN

HWY: 5.7L/100KM
CITY: 8.1L/100KM

OWN IT FROM **$94††** FLEX CHOICE Finance with Option to Return

bi-weekly for 60 months. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,489.
BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $17,484.

$0 DOWN PAYMENT

AT **0%** APR

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Prices do not include dealer administration fees ($399 to $699), licensing, PPSA or applicable taxes.

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Offer(s) available on all new 2011 and 2012 models through participating dealers to qualified customers who take delivery by January 31, 2012. Dealers may sell for less. Some conditions apply. Retailer order/trade may be necessary. Offers are subject to change and may be extended without notice. See dealer for complete details. Vehicle images shown may include optional accessories and upgrades. All offers exclude licensing, registration, insurance, PPSA, applicable taxes and taxable dealer administration fees (up to $699). **On purchase financing is available on all 2011 and 2012 Kia models on approved credit (OAC). Terms vary by model and trim, see dealer for details. ***Don't Pay Until Spring" on select models (90-day payment deferral) applies to purchase financing offers on select 2011 and 2012 models on approved credit (OAC) (Sport Rage/Sorento/Sedona/Borrego excluded). No interest will accrue during the first 60 days of the finance contract. After this period, interest starts to accrue and the purchaser will repay the principal + interest monthly over the term of the contract. **FlexChoice Financing for 36 - 48 - and 60 - month terms on approved credit through TD Financing Services is available at participating dealerships to qualified retail customers on select new 2011 and 2012 Kia vehicles. Taxes on the full negotiated purchase price are payable at the beginning of the contract term, resulting in higher payments than payments based on a per note basis, and are not reflected in advertised payments. The following terms apply to TD Financing Services contracts. Vehicles are financed over a 36-, 48- or 60-month term with payments amortized over a term of up to 96 months and the pre-determined residual balance payable at the end of the contract. At contract's end, customers have the choice of: (i) paying the residual balance indicated on the bill of sale in full. Some conditions apply. FlexChoice Financing offered by TD in Quebec is subject to different terms and conditions. All advertised FlexChoice financing offers are TD offers. Delivery and destination fees (up to $1,550), other fees ($34), OMVIC fee, Environmental Fee and A/C tax (where applicable) are included. Taxes, licence, insurance, registration, excess mileage, wear and tear charges, any retailer administration fees and other applicable fees and charges are not included. FlexChoice Financing is provided on approved credit through TD Financing Services. Your Option Date is set out on your TD financing services Payment Advantage loan certificate (the "Certificate"), which contains the terms and conditions governing your Return Value Option. If you exercise your Return Value Option, a return fee of $199 must be paid by you (not applicable in the province of Quebec) and you will be responsible for excess kilometer charges, excess wear and tear, and any other amounts as specified in your certificate. The remaining loan balance will be subject to then-applicable TD financing services rates and fees. Retailers may sell for less. See participating retailers for complete details. Representative example based on 2012 Forte Sedan base model (FK54DC/2012 K05 (K05F1C) with a purchase price of $17,484/$15,584 financed at 0%/2.9% APR over 60/48 months with $0 down, bi-weekly payments of $94/$108 for a cost of borrowing of $10/$1,18 and a total obligation of $16,384/$16,265. Includes delivery and destination fees of $1,455, other fees, OMVIC fee ($34), Environmental Fee and A/C tax (where applicable). 2012 Forte (FK54DC/FK05 (K05F1C) includes $500 FlexChoice credit. Certain restrictions apply. Taxes, PPSA, licence, insurance, registration, excess mileage, wear and tear charges, any administration or other applicable fees or charges are not included. Dealer may sell for less. See dealer for details. ◆Cash purchase price for 2011 Optima (UF54B) is $22,084 and includes a cash savings of $1,500 based on an MSRP of $23,584, delivery and destination fees of $1,455, other fees of $34, OMVIC fee, Environmental Fee and A/C tax ($100, where applicable) are included. License, insurance, applicable taxes, PPSA, dealer administration fees of up to $699 and registration fees are extra. Retailer may sell for less. See dealer for full details. Available at participating dealers. *Loyalty Bonus offer available on 2011 Optima Hybrid at a value of $1,250 for any current Kia owners towards the purchase or lease of a new 2011MY Optima Hybrid. Loyalty Bonus offer applicable to cash purchase, lease and purchase financing only before January 31, 2012. Offer is transferable within same household only (must provide proof of address). Limit of one bonus per customer or household. Certain restrictions apply. See dealer for details. ‡Optima Competitive Bonus offer in the amount of $1,000 available on the purchase or lease of new 2011 Optima Hybrid models for owners of most current competitive hybrid vehicles with proof of ownership. See dealer or kia.ca for eligibility of competitive vehicles and full program details. Certain restrictions apply. Competitive Bonus amounts will be deducted from the negotiated purchase/lease price before taxes. Offers are transferable within same household (must provide proof of address). Limit of one bonus per Kia vehicle and per eligible competitive vehicle. Offer not combinable with any other loyalty/conquest offers. Offer ends January 31, 2012. ‡‡2012 Kia Forte/2011 Kia Optima awarded the Top Safety Pick by the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. Visit www.iihs.org for full details. ^2011 Optima awarded 2012 Auto123.com Midsize Car of the Year. Visit auto123.com/awards for more details. ^ECO-Credit for 2011 Optima Hybrid is $1,000 and is applicable to the purchase or lease of a new 2011 Kia Optima Hybrid. Available at participating dealers. Certain restrictions apply. See dealer for details. *Highway/city fuel consumption of these vehicles may vary. These estimates are based on the Government of Canada's approved criteria and testing methods. Refer to the Government of Canada publication *EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide*. Some conditions apply to the $500 Grad Rebate Program. See dealer for details. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. For more information on our 5-year warranty coverage, visit kia.ca or call us at 1-877-542-2886. Kia Canada is the official automotive sponsor of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD Canada). KIA and FlexChoice are trademarks of Kia Motors Corporation.